



40,000 protest in Red Square

Gorbachov is jeered at May Day parade

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

AN ATTEMPT by the new Moscow City Council to bring controlled democracy to the city's May Day parade backfired badly yesterday when President Gorbachov led the official party from the Lenin mausoleum amid derisive whistles and shouts of "shame".

Some 40,000 demonstrators waved banners and placards condemning the Communist leadership and Mr Gorbachov personally, calling for an end to the economic blockade on Lithuania and supporting the radical Mr Boris Yeltsin for president. There were chants of support for the new Mayor of Moscow, the radical economist Mr Gavril Popov, who was with the presidential party, and calls for the Politburo to resign en bloc.

The demonstrators, augmented by several thousand police, KGB and plain-clothes militia, had paraded into Red Square for the second part of what was planned as a double May Day parade. The first part, organized by the official trade unions, passed off quietly and after it finished the official party remained on top of the Lenin mausoleum for the second – organized by Moscow's public bodies and informal political groups.

The double parade had been recommended by the city council and sanctioned – as is now obligatory for demonstra-

tions in central Moscow – by the Council of Ministers, apparently to pre-empt a bigger, unofficial demonstration that might overwhelm the main event in Red Square. Initially it seemed that the police did not intend to let the second parade to stop in the square. But the demonstrators stood their ground and turned – as had the trade union demonstrators at the first parade – to face the mausoleum, expecting speeches.

After 10 minutes of continuous barracking, the official party left Soviet television, which had broadcast the demonstration live, stopped its coverage just before the Politburo marched off.

The first demonstration, organized by the official trade unions, had been unusually low-key. Marchers were organized for the first time according to profession and not formally introduced on entering the square, as in previous years. There was little of the usual cheering. Short speeches from local and national trade union leaders referred to the country's economic crisis and expressed trepidation about the effect on workers' living standards of the reform programme. Banners, clearly ordered and distributed by the trade unions, urged price controls, no unemployment controls, and called for an end to economic "experiments".

Security was strict all day, with thousands of extra police and soldiers drafted into the city. Checks began at the outermost ring road and ended with no fewer than five checks on identity papers and identification cards for those approaching Red Square.

Interior Ministry troops and regular soldiers were much in evidence, and all possible entrances to the square were barricaded with lorries and buses immediately after each group of demonstrators had been allowed through.

Witnesses disagreed about whether President Gorbachov's exit had been planned to coincide with the end of television coverage or came in response to the barracking and hostile banners. The demonstrators interpreted the leaders' departure as a humiliation, and that version rapidly gained currency.

Later, at another unofficial demonstration, one of Moscow's anti-establishment folk heroes, Mr Telman Gulyan, warned a crowd of several thousand people that the "humiliation" of the leaders

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Tradition dawns, page 19

Temperatures set a record for May Day

By David Young

BRITAIN yesterday had its hottest May Day since records began in 1875. Kinloss, near Inverness, reached 27C (81F), beating the previous best of 26.7C, recorded at St James's Park, London, in 1966.

The forecast is that the weather will continue dry and warm for the rest of the week, with temperatures in the South-east again rising to around 24C (75F). Fears of an early start to summer smog in London receded yesterday, according to the Department of the Environment's monitoring service, but city air pollution is being exported to

By Michael Hornsby
Agriculture Correspondent

VEGETARIANISM is a "wholly unnatural" practice without support in biblical teaching, according to Mr John Gummer, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Addressing an audience at Butchers' Hall in the City yesterday, Mr Gummer, who is a member of the General Synod of the Church of England, said: "I consider meat to be an essential part of the diet. The Bible tells us that we are masters of the fowls of the air and the beasts of the field, and we very properly eat them."

"If the Almighty had wanted us to have three stomachs (like grass-eating cattle), I am sure he could have arranged it, but he chose to make us omnivores instead." Mr Gummer, speaking at the biennial luncheon of the International Meat Trade Association, drew enthui-

astic applause from an audience mainly of butchers and meat merchants. He said he was tired of reading in the press about the 10 per cent of the population who had turned vegetarian or reduced their meat intake. "I want to see more articles about the sensible 90 per cent who are still eating meat."

Warming to his theme, he said it was time to go on the offensive against "deeply undemocratic food faddists who want to impose on the rest of us views which come from their own inner psyches". Food was becoming a "religion substitute" which enabled people to "make themselves feel more moral by the diet they choose".

He said he particularly resented "those who encourage children to become vegetarian on grounds which have nothing to do with truth and everything to do with prejudice" – a reference to a video which the Vegetarian Society has

been showing in secondary schools since last December.

Miss Juliet Gellatley, the society's head of youth education, immediately retorted: "It is a totally factual video, and much of the information in it comes from Mr Gummer's own ministry. It looks at the way animals are kept and slaughtered, health and nutrition aspects, and the effect of meat-eating in affluent countries on the developing world, which is forced to grow grain to feed Western animals."

The British Chicken Information Service, meanwhile, reported yesterday that chicken in 1989 was Britain's most popular meat for the second consecutive year, pushing red meat into second place. It said chicken now had 31 per cent of the meat market in volume terms, compared with 29 per cent for beef, 17 for lamb, 16 for pork and 7 per cent for other types of poultry.



Defiant in the shadow of Marx, Engels and Lenin, opposition demonstrators carry a giant crucifix through Red Square for a May Day parade that ended with President Gorbachov being jeered from the Lenin mausoleum

Rail union leaders accept 9.3%

By Tim Jones
Employment Affairs Correspondent

THE threat of another summer of rail strikes effectively vanished yesterday when leaders of the two main rail unions, representing more than 100,000 workers, accepted British Rail's offer of a 9.3 per cent rise over 11 months.

In reaching the settlement, which will add £140 million to British Rail's wages bill, the unions effectively allowed the 8.8 per cent settlement, achieved last year after a series of disruptive strikes, to be stretched into a 13th month, and British Rail will be able to present it as adding only 8.6 per cent to its wages bill.

Although union leaders had aimed for the 10.2 per cent benchmark achieved by Ford workers, grassroots soundings indicated that members were in no mood for another fight if a deal above the rate of inflation could be achieved.

The settlement, which has to be accepted by the members, is welcome news for the Government, although ministers are concerned at the 11.1 per cent figure achieved by British Steel workers and fear that more than 600,000 town hall staff are ready for a fight over a 15 per cent demand.

Mr Jimmy Knapp, the general secretary of the National Union of Railwaysmen said: "I believe we have reached a settlement which NUR members will recognize as reasonable". However, members of the second biggest rail union, the TSSA, which represents administrative grades, were still discussing last night whether to accept the offer. Their members already work a 37-hour week and are pressing for more money if the other unions, currently on 39 hours, achieve that target.

Mr Derrick Fullick, general secretary of Aslef, the drivers' union, said: "The executives of both unions recognized that we have reached the end of the road over pay."

The NUR and Aslef rejected the board's offer of a "route forward" towards a reduction in the basic working week and decided instead to press for more negotiation for a 35-hour week.

Under the new deal, a railman's weekly pay rises £9.80 to £115.10 (made up to £127.75 by payment of a supplement), a conductor's (guard) £12.10 to £142.20, a top-rated signaller's £16.80 to £19.45 and a train driver's £15.70 to £184.30.

Thatcher silent on poll tax changes

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

MRS Margaret Thatcher refused to indicate in the Commons yesterday whether there would be legislation in the present session of Parliament to amend the poll tax.

Challenged by Mr Neil Kinnock to do so, she would say only that the Government would make an announcement when it was ready. Government sources said later that the question of whether or not legislation would be brought forward had to await the outcome of the review of the community charge.

Mr Thatcher made it plain that the basic principle of the tax was not being reviewed. Ministers, she said, were looking to see if any "adjustments" were needed. That had been signalled before, not least in last Wednesday's debate, and there was no surprise. Any confusion, she argued, existed only in the minds of high-spending Labour councils.

He died in Turin in 1925, aged 24, not before, however, *The Times* in a dispatch from its Milan correspondent in the early 1920s had praised "Sister Pier Giorgio Frassati" for defending his father from an attack by Italian fascists. "The mob was seen off by this energetic young man's timely intervention," *The Times* wrote.

This was not Frassati's only connection with the press. His father was the founder and owner of *La Stampa*, the Italian daily. Deeply opposed to Mussolini's blackshirts, his house was often the target of demonstrators.

Born into a privileged and wealthy family, Frassati lived his life to the fullest, his good looks attracting countless female admirers. Happiest scaling a mountain or organizing a party – one picture has him clutching a whisky bottle and wearing a paper hat – he was at first glance the archetypal young blade of the 1920s.

"He was the quintessential Confucius on page 24, col 4

Atlantic's liabilities

By Angela Mackay

ATLANTIC Computers, put into effective receivership two weeks ago by its parent, British and Commonwealth, has liabilities of between £500 million and £1,000 million. Price Waterhouse, the administrators appointed to Atlantic, said yesterday that unsecured creditors' chances of receiving a payout were grim. They spoke of "inevitable liquidation".

In the Commons yesterday

Mr Thatcher was asked by Dr David David, the leader of the SDP, if the review options included the introduction of banding according to income. In reply Mrs Thatcher said only that there were generous rebates for those who could not afford to pay and that transitional relief was available for those faced with sharp increases in charges.

Prime Minister's Question

Time was exclusively devoted to the subject of the poll tax, and it was reduced to a ritualized farce when a combative Mrs Thatcher led a chorus of Tory backbenchers in shouted denunciation of Labour local authorities in answer to a clearly pre-arranged request to name the five local authorities with the worst record on education, the highest number of empty council houses and the highest level of rent arrears.

As the Prime Minister,

clearly primed in advance with her detailed reply, went through the lists of councils concerned, Tory backbenchers shouted "Labour" after each one named.

Thames protest, page 2

Parliament, page 8

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Lou Macari in tax probe

Mr Lou Macari, the former manager of Swindon Town, and three other men connected with the Second Division club were last night being interviewed in connection with suspected Income Tax offences.

Mr Macari, Mr Brian Hillier, the former chairman, Mr Colin Calderwood, the club captain, and Mr Vincent Farmer, the club's former accountant, were all arrested yesterday after prolonged tax investigations. Page 48

Unfit for trial

A man accused of killing one man and injuring 17 people in a rampage with a shotgun at Monkseaton, Tyne and Wear, is unfit to stand trial, a jury at Newcastle Crown Court decided yesterday. Robert Saxon, aged 23, was remanded to a special hospital. Page 3

Mid-East hope

Iraq and Syria are now under strong economic pressure to end their feuds with the West and the warmer atmosphere generated by hostage releases could lead to increased trade. Page 10

Holiday stress

A business survey has concluded that executives are reluctant to take their full holiday entitlement, either because they want to be considered indispensable or because a fortnight with the family is more stressful than staying at work. Page 17

Jobs warning

Employment in manufacturing industry is set to fall by an average of 18,000 a month over the next three months as companies try to protect profits and market share against a strong rise in costs, the CBI says in its quarterly industrial trends survey. Page 25

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Mr Gummer: "We are masters of the fowls"

By Michael Hornsby
Agriculture Correspondent

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Mentally ill man unfit for shooting frenzy trial

By Peter Davenport

A SCHIZOPHRENIC accused of a series of unprovoked shootings that left one man dead and 17 other people injured was yesterday found to be unfit to stand trial. The Newcastle Crown Court jury found by a 10-2 majority that Robert Sartin, a civil servant accused of murder and attempted murder, was not fit to plead because of his mental condition. Mr Justice Waite, made an order under the Criminal Procedures Insanity Act, 1964, remanding him to Ashworth North special hospital near Liverpool until a suitable long-stay hospital was found.

The jury had been told that Mr Sartin, aged 23, was suffering from acute schizophrenia — which he may have developed at the age of 13 or 14 — when he took his father's shotgun on April 30 last year and, dressed all in black, wandered through the streets of Monkseaton, Tyneside and Wear, firing as he went. After 20 minutes, Mr Kenneth Macintosh lay dead and 17 other people had been wounded.

The court had been told that Mr Sartin fired two shots at Mr Macintosh knocking him to the ground. As his victim begged for help, the gunman was alleged to have replied: "No. It is your day to die," and fired two more shots, killing him instantly.

Mr David Robson, QC, for the prosecution, said that Mr Sartin had developed a macabre interest in horror and the occult, amassing a collection of books about Nazi concentration camps, mass murder and torture. He had also visited Hungerford, scene of the mass killing by Michael Ryan. Mr Sartin, it was said, had claimed that a man called Michael inhabited his mind and issued commands. Voices in his head also told him to kill his parents.

Mr Robson said Mr Sartin was a loner, quiet and shy, but beneath that exterior ran "a very dark river" which had broken to the surface with a "terrible reality". What caused the sudden and devastating explosion would probably never be known.

Yesterday, Mr James Chadwick, QC, representing Mr Sartin, said the probabilities were that his client's mental state would deteriorate so drastically and sharply that long before any trial could be concluded, it would have to be aborted and the jury discharged. All three doctors who had given evidence took the view that a trial would achieve nothing positive, he said, and the defence supported the prosecution's view that Mr Sartin should not stand trial.

The judge said it was an exceptional, perhaps unique, case. There had been only one other comparable incident resulting from schizophrenia in the UK: the massacre at Hungerford. Mr Justice Waite added: "No one could fail to be moved by the elements of tragedy in this case affecting both those who suffered bereavement, fright or physical injury on the victims' side, and those on the perpetrator's side who have undergone the shock and horror of a loved one suddenly turned by extremes of illness into a mindless assassin."

The jury was allowed to bring in a majority verdict after failing to reach a unanimous decision after

Support emerges for switch to local TV on Channel 5

By John Lewis, Political Staff

THE Channel 5 station scheduled to come into operation in 1993 as another national channel, should be switched to provide purely local television, according to a Conservative MP.

Miss Emma Nicholson, MP for Devon West and Torridge, and a member of the broadcasting Bill's standing committee, has tabled an amendment that will give the Government the chance to rethink its policy. The amendment is scheduled to be discussed during the Bill's report stage next week.

Significantly, the proposal has backing inside the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) and is believed to have the sympathy of Mr George Russell, the authority's chairman who, as chairman of the new Independent



Miss Nicholson: Rethink on broadcasting policy

Media, pages 20-21

Irish launch smoke-free zone with a few ifs and many butts

From Alan Hamilton, Dublin

THE designated smoking area at Dublin airport arrivals hall at 2.30pm yesterday contained two briar pipes, one cigarette, and three nuts. The nuts were not smoking, but looked as though they might at any moment attempt to convert the smoke-wreathed ungodly.

Ireland awoke yesterday to brilliant spring weather and the cleanest air it has enjoyed for many a day. The effect was not meteorological, but rather the result of the imposition of the toughest anti-smoking regulations in Europe.

At Dublin central bus station, where doors boldly proclaimed it a smoke-free zone, one man among 50 passengers was puffing heartily on a cigarette, and coughing as though his end might come before his bus. The Irish, who are not noted for enjoying new laws, took no notice.

At the Dublin General Post Office, guarded 74 years ago — unsuccessfully — by King George's troops, the doors were guarded by large pictures of cigarettes with red bars through them. Everyone appeared to be obeying, but the pavement outside was a fair mess of butts.

At Bewley's coffee house,

the sweetest smelling place in all Dublin, two addicts puffed openly in the designated smoking area, which all restaurants must now have.

Smoking anywhere else on the premises can now attract a fine of £100 from the culprit and £500 from the management for allowing it.

On the tops of buses smoking has now joined spitting as a banned activity. The weed, may the briar even, is forbidden in the public areas of all government offices, cinemas, theatres, indoor sports centres, museums, galleries and most public transport. Even Aer Lingus has reduced its smoking area to six rows per aircraft.

At least, pensioners enjoying concessionary matinee tickets at the Savoy cinema yesterday afternoon were able to see Sylvester Stallone with unusual clarity and sharpness, freed from the customary fog which used to fill picture houses. Whether it heightened their enjoyment of the screen-play was not clear.

Schools are also included in the smoking ban, turning a crafty puff behind the bike sheds from a mere display of moral weakness into a crum-



Hacker 'caused £25,000 damage'

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

A YOUTH calling himself "the mad hacker" caused more than £25,000 worth of damage to university computer systems after "breaking in" and sabotaging files, a jury at Southwark Crown Court was told yesterday.

Nicholas Whiteley, then aged 19, used a personal computer to enter the national academic computer network, in what police allege is the biggest hacking case of its kind. He penetrated data bases at St Mary's College, London University, and Bath and Hull universities, replacing valuable information with schoolboy humour, it is alleged. Miss Joanna Kerner for the

prosecution said Mr Whiteley, now 21, "declared war" on Hull University when he could not enter the mainframe computer.

He would spend up to 13 hours at a time tampering with the college's computer and on one occasion forced its closure for a weekend, the court was told.

The system was made to print 198 times: "I think you should know that I am mad ... I am also very depressed".

Miss Kerner said that the jury might find some of Mr Whiteley's activities funny, but she said: "The malice he displayed when attacking systems far removes his efforts from a rather puerile joke or

game played on computer operators" until it failed after a 1,000.

At St Mary's College Mr Whiteley, of Ascot Gardens, Enfield, west London, "backed in" 81 times. He would

spend up to 13 hours at a time tampering with the college's computer and on one occasion forced its closure for a weekend, the court was told.

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Mr Whiteley, a computer operator at a company, is also said to have attacked the London University system where he instructed the machine to carry out repeated

"The Naked Maja", by Goya, turning the eye of visitors at the National Gallery in London, where it is on display with "The Clothed Maja". Goya's two most famous and scandalous creations will flaunt their charms at the gallery for two months (Sarah Jane Checkland writes).

They will languish beside the painting that inspired them, "The Rokeby Venus" by Velázquez, painted 140 years earlier and named for its period at Rokeby Hall, in Yorkshire. The display is part of a reciprocal agreement between the National Gallery and the Prado in Madrid.

Maja means a girl of the people, a gypsy, even a prostitute, although some rumours have it that the model was the Duchess of Alba. Goya was summoned during the Inquisition to account for what were called "obscene paintings".

The hearing of the case continues today.

Rich wife 'risks jail' for £7,000 crime trail

THE wife of a millionaire businessman was threatened with jail yesterday after an illegal spending spree in London and the south of France.

Over a five-month period, Mrs Wendy Lipton, whose husband, Gerald, owns the Chinatown chain of shops in central London, tricked top shops out of designer clothes worth more than £7,000, using stolen cheques and credit cards, after raiding a locker at her golf club in Surrey.

When police caught up with her, the rich housewife blamed her offences on a skin disorder, Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court was told.

Mr Michael Burdette, for the prosecution, said: "There is no financial reason why she committed the offences."

He said: "She offered no explanation for it, except to say that she was suffering from a skin disorder for which she required treatment."

Mr Vivian Robinson, QC, for Lipton, asked Mr David Meier, the magistrate, to adjourn the case so that her doctor could give evidence.

"There is ... a highly significant medical background to this case, which explains what would otherwise be a totally inexplicable series of facts," Mr Robinson said.

Lipton, aged 44, of St John's Wood, north London, admitted stealing a jewellery pouch and contents worth £1,860 from Mrs Jeanne Kicks at the Coombe Hill golf club, last June, stealing a cheque book, and deception offences.

Goods obtained included a £245 silk blouse and a £1,200 Kashmiri cape.

Mr Meier adjourned the case for a social inquiry report. He granted bail to Lipton and told her: "You are in danger of a custodial sentence. I make no bones about that."

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Peace campaigners in spy escape case win delay to trial

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

TWO peace campaigners yesterday won leave to challenge in the High Court a judge's decision that they must stand trial for their roles in helping the double agent George Blake to escape from prison 24 years ago.

In what is believed to be an unprecedented legal move, Mr Justice Hodgson ordered the trial of Patrick Pottie and Michael Randle to be halted while their application for judicial review goes ahead.

Their trial had been due to start at the Central Criminal Court today. The case raises an important legal issue as to whether or not decisions of Crown Court judges in such circumstances are open to judicial review.

Mr Justice Hodgson said he considered the point "arguable and indeed difficult" and it should be considered at a full judicial review hearing.

The case also raises the issue, increasingly coming before the courts, of whether a delay in bringing a prosecution is such as to amount to an "abuse of process" and therefore to be prejudicial to the defendants.

Mr Pottie, of Northview

Road, Crouch End, north London, and Mr Randle, of Hollingwood Lane, Bradford, are seeking to overturn Mr Justice Macpherson of Cluny's decision at the Central Criminal Court on Friday not to grant a permanent stay on the trial. They argue it is "oppressive" and "an abuse of the process" of the court to prosecute them 24 years after Blake's escape.

Yesterday Mr Justice Hodgson rejected an invitation from Mr John Laws, Treasury Counsel, who had been asked by the judge to assist the court on the law, to make a ruling that the High Court lacked jurisdiction to hear the case.

Mr Richard Gordon, a barrister and author of *Judicial Review: Law and Procedure*, said the decision to allow the challenge was unusual. It centred on the extent of the High Court's jurisdiction under section 29 (3) of the Supreme Court Act 1981 and whether such a challenge was prohibited in law or not. It could open the way to similar challenges where courts have refused to stop stale prosecutions and could "add a growing impetus to the willingness

of the High Court to curb prosecutions where there has been considerable delay".

Mr Pottie, aged 51, said after the hearing: "We are both extremely pleased. We feel during the hearing last week that Mr Justice Macpherson had made a number of fundamental mistakes in excluding witnesses and a statement from a Special Branch inspector.

"I think that although this will have to go up to appeal, obviously the judge today feels that there are good grounds."

He said: "We would like the whole thing to be done as quickly as possible. We are in no way trying to delay the trial. It has taken 24 years to get to this point."

Mr Randle, a researcher aged 56, said: "The sooner the better for us. We don't want it hanging around any longer. It is a bit of a strain."

The two men say that 20 years ago a decision was taken by the police "at a high level" not to launch proceedings against them, even though the police had reason to believe they had committed the offence.

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Parkinson launches safety campaign

By Michael Dynes
Transport Correspondent

MILLIONS of travellers take unnecessary risks, putting their lives and the lives of others in danger every day, according to a survey published yesterday by Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport.

Launching the transport safety campaign, "Safety on the move", Mr Parkinson urged people using all modes of transport to concentrate their efforts "on what they can do to improve their own safety and the safety of others".

The survey of a representative sample of 1,000 adults, conducted by the British Market Research Bureau, showed that 45 per cent of all drivers regularly exceed the 70mph speed limit and 16 per cent of pedestrians fail to look both ways when crossing the road.

The survey also showed that 17 per cent of rail passengers open train doors before trains stop, 42 per cent of air travellers fail to read safety instructions and 55 per cent of ferry passengers do not check where muster stations are.

Moreover, one in 10 surveyed admitted to jumping off a bus before the stop, 4 per cent of London Underground travellers force carriage doors open and 8 per cent of rail travellers lean out of windows while trains are moving.

"Every day millions of transport users take unnecessary risks. Most of the time people get away with these risks unscathed. But it only takes a bit of bad luck, and there can be a serious accident," Mr Parkinson said.

As 90 per cent of road accidents, for example, involve human error, the department had decided to launch a campaign focusing on the contribution travellers could make to their own safety.

Nonetheless, Mr Parkinson said he accepted the Department of Transport had "an overriding priority" to reduce risks faced by travellers, and said everything was being done to ensure that government and transport operators learnt the lessons of past accidents.

Mr Jonathan Bray, a spokesman for the campaign for improved public transport in London, criticized the safety campaign "for blaming passengers for transport accidents when poor management and under-funding are the chief culprits".

He said: "It is all very well reminding people to act sensibly when travelling, but the public know that it was bad management and under-financing that led to disasters like the King's Cross fire and the Clapham crash."

Mr Bray called on Mr Parkinson to set up a new independent safety inspectorate with the finance, powers and the will to oversee public transport, and to agree to additional London Underground lines needed to relieve dangerous overcrowding.

Leading article, page 13
Safe driving, page 19



Mr Parkinson: Travellers take unnecessary risks

Blake's first book fetches £74,000

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

THE best private library of rare English literature is no more after a huge two-day dispersal at Sotheby's, New York. Pickings from the H Bradley Martin collection, which included first editions and autograph manuscripts by such names as W.H. Auden, William Blake, and John Betjeman, were shared between British and American dealers, with private buyers making frequent spirited bids.

An unnamed London dealer paid \$121,000 (£74,029) for a first edition of *Poetical Sketches*, William Blake's first book and one of only 20 known to exist. The estimate had been about £50,000. The book had the added attraction of various handwritten corrections by the author, such as when the word "beds" is changed to "birds", although some scholars believe those additions are fake.

Robert Browning's first book, *Pauline; a Fragment of a Confession*, written while still a teenager, sold to an American dealer for \$47,109, while a first edition of Elizabeth Barrett's *The Battle of Marathon*, published when she was 13 and inscribed "for her dearest Grandmama with Elizabeth's love", fetched £30,284.

The sale was the climax of a massive dispersal of the H. Bradley Martin collection, compiled over 40 years by the Manhattan millionaire who became an Anglophile after a period as a student at Christ Church, Oxford, during the 1920s. Other areas of interest, including an impressive line-up of ornithological works, had already been sold according to instructions left by Mr Martin, who died in 1988.

Four lots containing unpublished poems by Sir John Betjeman sold within their estimates, the most expensive fetching \$19,800 (£12,200). The total for the first day's sale of 397 lots was £1.5 million, with 1 per cent unsold.

Flying scenery stops Sondheim musical

By Simon Tait, Arts Correspondent

THE Royal National Theatre performance of the Stephen Sondheim musical *Sunday in the Park with George* was cancelled last night to allow an investigation after a piece of falling scenery narrowly missed an actor during a performance.

Monday's performance at the Lyttelton Theatre was called off half way through when a wooden tree which needed to be "flown" off stage on pulleys fell from its hook.

It was the third incident at the National in a week leading to the stoppage of a performance, and the second for the Sondheim musical. Last Monday part of another piece of scenery, an iron weighbar, became dislodged.

The next day in the neighbouring Olivier Theatre, Peter Wood, the director, halted a performance of his production of *School for Scandal* when a hydraulic jack broke down, preventing the revolving stage from moving.

After the latest incident on Monday night a meeting of the actors took place and the management agreed to stop

the performance and cancel last night's to allow the whole of the complicated set to be examined. Ticket-holders were being offered refunds. It is expected that today's scheduled matinee performance of *Sunday in the Park with George* will go ahead.

"We have to make sure that everything is completely safe," a theatre spokesman said. "It is an extremely complicated set which requires large flats to fly off and on stage. The show had been on for 52 performances and there seemed no reason why the bar should suddenly be ripped loose on the fifth-third."

"Nor is there any explanation for why the tree should have come loose, but there is no question of sabotage. It has simply been bad luck, but we can take no chances".

The incidents at the theatre and elsewhere are being taken up by Equity, the actors' union. It said yesterday that a new working party involving the union, representatives of stage staff and theatre managers, has been set up to look into safety on stage.

Peace campaigners in spy escape case win delay to trial

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

TWO peace campaigners yesterday won leave to challenge in the High Court a judge's decision that they must stand trial for their roles in helping the double agent George Blake to escape from prison 24 years ago.

In what is believed to be an unprecedented legal move, Mr Justice Hodgson ordered the trial of Patrick Pottie and Michael Randle to be halted while their application for judicial review goes ahead.

Their trial had been due to start at the Central Criminal Court today. The case raises an important legal issue as to whether or not decisions of Crown Court judges in such circumstances are open to judicial review.

Mr Justice Hodgson said he considered the point "arguable and indeed difficult" and it should be considered at a full judicial review hearing.

The case also raises the issue, increasingly coming before the courts, of whether a delay in bringing a prosecution is such as to amount to an "abuse of process" and therefore to be prejudicial to the defendants.

Mr Pottie, of Northview

Road, Crouch End, north London, and Mr Randle, of Hollingwood Lane, Bradford, are seeking to overturn Mr Justice Macpherson of Cluny's decision at the Central Criminal Court on Friday not to grant a permanent stay on the trial. They argue it is "oppressive" and "an abuse of the process" of the court to prosecute them 24 years after Blake's escape.

Yesterday Mr Justice Hodgson rejected an invitation from Mr John Laws, Treasury Counsel, who had been asked by the judge to assist the court on the law, to make a ruling that the High Court lacked jurisdiction to hear the case.

He said: "We would like the whole thing to be done as quickly as possible. We are in no way trying to delay the trial. It has taken 24 years to get to this point."

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LOCAL ELECTIONS IN BRISTOL

GRAHAM WOOD

A mercantile city brought down by craze for change

KING Edward III, in 1373, turned Bristol into a county, separate from Somerset and Gloucestershire. Almost exactly 600 years later, Mr Edward Heath merged Bristol into a new county, called Avon, taking in Bath, Weston-super-Mare and various other places, which greatly resented their new status.

Both Bristol and Avon councils have now been rate-capped because, so the Government says, they have been overspending. But the creation of Avon, adding an extra tier of administrative bureaucracy, means that people have to pay more for their local government, whether they do that in income tax, rates or the new community charge.

If the Government really wanted to solve its present difficulties, it could simply abolish Avon and all those tiers of bureaucracy, returning again to the old system when only householders paid any rates or had a vote in local elections.

In Bristol, as everywhere in these local elections, the poll tax has drawn attention away

Bristol's energy that once went into commerce and industry has been diverted over the past 30 years into development and construction. Richard West assesses the consequences

from more serious local issues. The city which had the most violent riots during the agitation preceding the Great Reform Bill of 1832 has taken again to the streets. Even the gentle Greens are burning their poll tax forms.

The Greens are concentrated in the Montpellier district, where health shops are so green "all the potatoes come covered in muck," a resident says. "There are also lots of solar panels in Montpellier but unfortunately it rains most of the time."

The Greens and the left joined in denouncing Bristol's new Sixties industries such as Concorde and a zinc smelter at Avonmouth, but most of the energy that went into commerce and industry has been diverted over the past 30 years into development and construction. Bristol was bombed in the Second World War but the damage was slight compared to the orgy of demolition that started about 1960. That year marked the pulling down of Bristol's only Norman house.

Throughout the Middle Ages, Bristol shipped in most

of the wine from France, Spain and Portugal, acquiring itself a reputation for drunkenness. It was the main importer of furs. Bristol's main wealth in the 18th century came from the infamous three-way trade in cloth and drink to West Africa, buying slaves for sale in the West Indies, from where the ships brought back sugar and rum. Many descendants of the slaves now live in the St Paul's district, including the city's next Lord Mayor, the owner of a popular public house.

The next year witnessed the

demolition of all the Georgian and pre-Georgian houses of Vine Row and Park Hill, followed in 1962 by a medieval church, the Bishop's Palace and several old streets. The demolition reached a

climax in 1964 with the disappearance of most of the Georgian houses as well as part of Bristol where one could stand entirely out of sight of any but 18th-century or earlier buildings.

The pulling down of a cluster of timber-framed houses to make way for a concrete jungle of motorways, overpasses, hideous shopping centres and gaudy office

blocks. Bristol is now one of the most ugly, depressing places in Britain. It is salutary to compare Bristol with Hull, another old port which also suffered bomb damage in the war. Because Hull has not been developed, because its centre has been restored, it is now as pleasant as Bristol is miserable. The people who used to live in the centre of Bristol were packed off into high-rise flats in the suburbs. Crime, vandalism and broken homes are rife. Near some of the more depressing estates, at Barton Hill, the Avon council finances a youth club, which now has international fame. It is a centre for students of aerosol art, or what the rest of us call spraying graffiti. Apparently people have come from as far as Munich, Lisbon, New York and Brisbane to study under the Barton Hill tutors.

A city which still has some

Battle of the parties

A THIRD of the council is up for election this year in Bristol. The city is controlled by Labour, which holds 37 seats. The Conservatives have 24 seats and the Social and Liberal Democrats have five. Two vacant seats are also being contested. All parties are fighting all 23 seats. Labour is defending the majority of seats - 15 in all. The Conservatives are fighting to hold on to eight seats and the SLD is defending only two. The Greens are hopeful of scoring at least one victory at the polls. They are contesting all the seats up this year.

'Corruption row' embroils council on eve of poll

By Nicholas Wood
Political Correspondent

LABOUR yesterday sought to sink Tory hopes of holding on to the flagship London borough of Westminster by accusing local Conservatives and ministers of "corruption" in the allocation of Whitehall grants to the authority.

Westminster has set a poll tax of £195 - the second lowest in London after Wandsworth - and its fate in council elections tomorrow is central to the Government's case for the community charge. If the Tories, who have a majority of only four seats, beat off the Labour challenge and buck the national trend, ministers will be able to argue that it is the level of the charge, not the underlying principle of a flat-rate tax, that is at fault.

Yesterday, Dr John Cunningham, Labour's campaign co-ordinator, produced leaked papers which, he said, contained evidence of "corruption" involving local Tories and ministers to "gerrymander" the election result. He suggested that Westminster had illegally used taxpayers' money to hire a firm of lobbyists to conduct a high-powered persuasion exercise stretching all the way to the Prime Minister.

In a bizarre twist, Lady Porter, leader of Westminster council, initially denied the allegations about hiring the firm of lobbyists but then retracted her remarks. A spokesman said she had been caught unawares and that the council had spent under £5,000 on hiring GJW, a firm of lobbyists to make its case to the Government over the safety net and the council's need for extra money for services to tourists, commuters and shoppers to make up for that lost through the introduction of the uniform business rate. He said that Mr Paul Dillmolden, leader of the Labour group, worked for Good Relations, a lobbying firm previously associated with GJW.

The Department of the Environment denied that Westminster had been given special treatment, and Mr Barry Legg, the Tory chief whip for the council, dismissed the claims as a "desperate pre-election gimmick".

Dr Cunningham said: "The purpose of this conspiracy has

been to manipulate the eventual level of the poll tax in Westminster, and almost certainly in Wandsworth and Bradford, too, for the simple political objective of retaining political control as a squalid political exercise."

"Now we have the evidence which confirms our suspicions that this has been deliberately manipulated with the misdirection of public funds and the very partial and special treatment given to these Tory boroughs simply to try to buy another four years in power. Ministers have clearly been involved, as has 10 Downing Street... lobbyists have clearly been employed by the council at the taxpayers' expense."

He added that Westminster had been given an extra £25 million - worth £185 a person in lower poll-tax bills - as a result of the lobbying exercise. "This is corruption."

Mr Legg replied: "In common with hundreds of other councils, of course, we lobby the Government about the £75 safety net and the cost to our charge-payers of servicing a million commuters, tourists and shoppers who pour into Westminster every day."

There were four documents produced by Labour, including reports of meetings and one making direct reference to the Prime Minister. It said: "The Prime Minister is the last resort. She should only be invoked when all arguments have failed to persuade DoE ministers of the rightness of Westminster's case."

The department rejected the claims and denied that Westminster had behaved improperly. "Westminster's grant was calculated on precisely the same basis as applied to other authorities," it said.

Conservative Central Office denied there had been special treatment.

Dr. John Cunningham: Seized on leaked documents



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Big Brewers resist order on sale of rival beers

By David Sapsted

NEW brands of beer should have appeared — but in most cases did not — in more than 21,000 British public houses yesterday as the first step in the Government's drive for more competition in the brewing industry and greater choice for the drinking public.

Under a Department of Trade and Industry order made after last year's Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on the industry, tenants of public houses owned by the five big brewers were free from yesterday to start selling at least one "guest" cask-conditioned ale, buying it direct from an independent company.

The new order did not work out that way. Tenants claimed pressure from the brewers; the National Union of Licensed Victuallers was mulling over legal action; and the companies were considering rent increases for publicans who started selling beers from independent brewers next to their own.

Independent and regional brewery companies, mean-

while, intensified efforts to persuade tied houses to carry their beers. Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries even offered rent subsidies or loans at 5 per cent to publicans ready to stock its Banks's brew. That, in turn, led to existing Banks's publicans protesting that the national brewers' pubs in the Midlands would suddenly be offered a price edge they did not enjoy.

Mr John Overton, chief executive of the licensed victuallers' union, said: "It is all somewhat confusing and unsatisfactory." The union is taking legal advice over the proposal by GrandMet, one of the big five brewers, to review the rents of its 4,238 tenants because of the "new retail opportunity" in the Government's report.

The monopolies commission originally proposed that the big five — Allied-Lyons, Bass, Courage, GrandMet and Whitbread — should be required to reduce the total number of tenancies to just 2,000 each. The report added that a tenant should be allowed to carry one guest beer, which would have given publicans access to the boom market in lager.

Pressure applied inside and outside of Parliament by the brewing lobby, however, finally left the companies with all their properties and left tenants with only the opportunity of carrying at least one cask-conditioned ale outside the brewery-supplied portfolio.

Mr Ken Hollingsworth, who runs Ye Olde Green Dragon, an Allied-owned house at Shenfield, Essex, estimated that even that concession could mean the big five losing up to a fifth of their cask-conditioned sales.

"I have been carrying two guest beers, Adnams and Greene King, for some time. Both were supplied via Allied but, when I said I was thinking of buying in one of them direct myself, the company said it would stop supplying me with the other one," Mr Hollingsworth, chairman of the Allied Tenants' Group, said.

"There was also the threat of a rent review, but we took legal action and Allied started backing off. I don't quite know what the position is at the moment but I am talking to other brewers this week to see what they have to offer."

Regional brewers have been offering various inducements, including free or cut-price ales, over the past two months in the hope that tenants would jump on their beer wagon. Apart from GrandMet, the national brewers have started offering to supply their tenants with a range of guest beers, the brew depending on regional preferences.

The Campaign for Real Ale, meanwhile, has been waging its own publicity campaign, urging publicans to go their own way but, so far, tenants appear to be waiting for the dust to settle.

"It sounds a good opportunity but it is scarcely worthwhile increasing your range if, at the end of the day, your extra profits are going to be taken away in higher rents. Most tied houses are still bidding their time, seeing if the whole thing is going to be commercially viable," Mr Overton said.



Sir Hector: Full apology from league

Big haul of 'crack'

West Midlands police have made what is believed to be the largest seizure in Britain of "crack", the highly addictive cocaine-based drug. Crack with a street value estimated at £27,000 was discovered when police raided a flat in the Holloway Head area of Birmingham on Monday night.

It was the fifth seizure of crack by West Midlands police in the past two years. A spokesman said that the weight of the drug discovered was still being determined. Three people are being questioned in connection with the seizure.

Marsh demand

Terry Marsh, the former world boxing champion charged with the attempted murder of Frank Warren, his former manager, was further remanded in custody until May 8 at Barking Magistrates' Court.

Green guards

Twelve "green guardians" were appointed by the Royal Society for Nature Conservation to act as wardens during the summer to protect some of Britain's rarest orchids.

Quick thinking

Roy Bowring, aged 21, of Leyton, east London, was found not guilty of rape when a jury at the Central Criminal Court returned the verdict in four minutes, said to be a record.

Slippery slope

Cars were wrecked and pedestrians jumped for their lives when a 38-ton lorry carrying frozen lard hurtled through the centre of Axminster, Devon, after its brakes failed.

Village plea

Villagers at Stocking Pelham, Hertfordshire, have demanded their Georgian post box back after Royal Mail Services, in a dawn raid, replaced it with a modern box. The demand is being considered.

Damages award

A psychologist who had to quit her job after being knocked down by a car in south London and suffering a change in personality won £200,000 damages in the High Court from the driver, aged 21.

Abuse rise

Nottinghamshire County Council is planning to spend an extra £1 million on salaries to attract more social workers in order to cope with a rise in child abuse cases.

Bean bath

Mr Kevin Nally raised £2,000 for children at the Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, by sitting in a bath of cold baked beans for six hours.



Rites of May: The White Hart Morrismen from Redditch celebrating the dawning of May Day at Sam yesterday at St James's church, Weethley, Warwickshire

Tommy the Hat will sweet-talk tourists for a free pint

By Harvey Elliott

TOMMY the Hat, who on most days can be found sitting in his favourite corner at the bar of his local drinking pint of bitter and playing a mean game of dominoes, has found himself in the front line of the battle to persuade foreign visitors, especially Americans, to see more of the "real Britain".

Tommy, like hundreds of other pub regulars, has been spotted as a potential crowd puller and in return for free pints at the Granary Hotel, Amble, Northumberland, has been

persuaded to become one of a new breed of "professional" locals provided he teaches visitors how to play darts and dominoes, speaks the dialect, reminiscences about the good old days and allows them to sit in his corner while they take photographs for the folks back home.

The idea of recruiting the regulars came to Mr David Hayes, director of Wayfarer Inns, which looks after the marketing for independent country pubs, inns and small hotels, after he studied the results of a survey among American travel

agents about what their clients wanted to see and experience in Britain. Nearly 75 per cent of those questioned said their clients would like to sample country inns and pubs if only they could book such things in advance and were guaranteed the chance of sampling the local life.

He wrote to all group members from Devon to Scotland suggesting that they recruit their local character to act as some kind of ambassador and provide the touch of authentic colour tourists so often seek but rarely find. The response has been

overwhelming. It seems that Britain is full of the likes of Tommy who would love to earn themselves free pints for a half-hour chat.

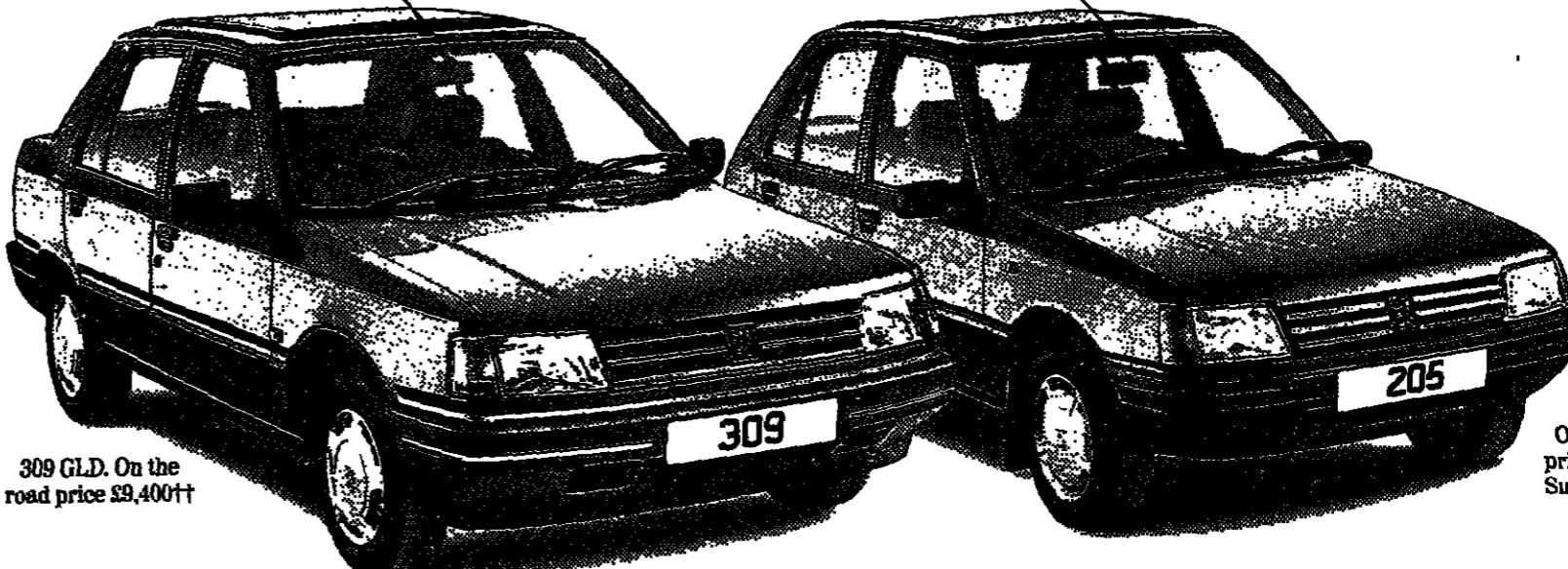
"This is a very serious proposition," Mr Hayes said. "The inns who belong to our group have between five and 15 bedrooms and really represent the true picture of rural Britain. We want them to earn their beer, however."

Tommy, nicknamed "the hat" because of the woolly hat he wears incessantly, will also have to hand over a recipe for his favourite family

dish, which in his case is rabbit pie, identify the main items of local gossip and news and describe beauty spots in the immediate area.

For Tommy, a retired coal-miner of indeterminate age, that will present few problems because he has always lived in and around Amble and loves to gossip anyway. If he and his fellow regulars can woo the tourists and persuade them to pay up to £75 a night for a double room in an old inn, the chances are that they will be rewarded with far more than the odd free pint.

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	205 XLD	309 GLD	205 XLD	309 GLD	205 XLD	309 GLD
FLAT RATE	0%	0%	3.9%	3.9%	6.9%	6.9%
LOAN PERIOD	12 Months	12 Months	24 Months	24 Months	36 Months	36 Months
ON THE ROAD PRICE ^{††}	8290.00	9400.00	8290.00	9400.00	8290.00	9400.00
MIN DEPOSIT	50%	50%	40%	40%	30%	30%
DEPOSIT	4145.08	4700.08	3316.00	3760.00	2487.00	2820.00
MONTHLY PAYMENT [*]	345.41	391.66	223.42	253.33	194.56	220.61
FINANCE CHARGES	NIL	NIL	398.08 [†]	449.92 [†]	1211.16 [†]	1371.96 [†]
TOTAL COST	8290.00	9400.00	8688.08	9849.92	9501.16	10771.96
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PEUGEOT. THE LION GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Thatcher refuses to be drawn on poll tax legislation

THE Prime Minister refused to be drawn into saying during question time whether the Government would legislate to modify the community charge in the present session of Parliament.

Mr Neil Kinnock said that poll tax would have to be abolished — "even if it means the Prime Minister goes down with her own flagship". He opened by asking: "Will she tell us whether or not she is going to introduce legislation to change poll tax in this session of Parliament?"

Mrs Margaret Thatcher: "When in fact we have a statement, we shall make it. It will be far more detailed and thorough than any that had been had from him (Labour protests)."

Mr Kinnock: "Does she not remember telling me a few short

weeks ago that she thought community charge will be very popular? Does she still believe that and, if so, why is she sending ministers off in every direction, desperately searching for an escape route from poll tax?"

Mrs Thatcher: "Community charge is a much fairer charge (Labour laughter and interruptions)... and a fairer charge than the alternative roof tax."

I notice that when Mr Kinnock gave an interview on April 21, it says this: "Mr Kinnock then gave a strong indication of his own thinking" (Conservative laughter).

He said: "The tax base for rates was imputed rents and that's one thing we can take into account now and bung into the computer".

She said: "Does he not know the

PRIME MINISTER

old computer saying (further interruptions) "Garbage in, garbage out" (Conservative laughter).

Mr Kinnock: "Can the Prime Minister understand what just about everybody in the country now understands? That poll tax will never be fair (Labour cheers). It cannot be fair. It must be got rid of."

Mrs Thatcher: "Can he not understand that domestic rates have been abolished? They were the most unfair tax; the enemy is not community charge, but high-spending Labour councils."

Mr Andrew Smith (Oxford East, Lab): "Does she accept responsibility

for the chaos and confusion at the heart of government over poll tax? Does she not owe it to this House and the people, before they vote on Thursday, to give a straight answer to a straight question: What precisely will she do about poll tax?"

Mrs Thatcher: "Of course adjustments will have to be made and we are looking to see what they have to be. If there is any confusion, it is in the minds of local Labour authorities."

High community charges are due to local Labour councils. Most councils have got out their charges with the rebates and transitional relief.

Miss Emma Nicholson (West Devon and Torridge, C) said that because only 19 million people had

paid rates and 36 million were now liable to pay for local services, the charge was already infinitely fairer.

Mrs Thatcher: "She is correct. More than 70 per cent of people in a poll said that they believed that everybody should make some contribution to local government spending. That is precisely what community charge does, with more generous rebates than ever, and generous rebates on transitional relief."

It is much fairer than rates or roof tax.

Dr David Owen: "Is banding of the poll tax one of the adjustments she has in mind, so that people can pay on the basis of their ability to pay, or is the Prime Minister opposed to that in principle? Or are there

practical arguments, in which case perhaps she will enumerate them?"

Mrs Thatcher: "Those who cannot afford to pay get very generous community charge rebates, more generous than ever before. About nine million people benefit from them."

Those who have a sharp difference between the old rates and community charge are eligible for transitional relief. That applies to seven million people."

People who do not get sufficient transitional relief live in high-spending Labour council areas (Labour protests).

Better-off people, she said, paid far more for local services because national tax was the greatest contributor to local authority spending. The

top 10 per cent of earners paid 40 per cent far more than those in the bottom 10 per cent."

Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk West, Lab) said Mrs Thatcher had herself called poll tax the flagship. Now that the elections were fast approaching, despite the captain's order to change course, she should recall what had happened to that other flagship, the Belgrano.

Mrs Thatcher said that Mr Canavan could have done better. In Scotland, local authorities were holding or reducing the charge. "Accountability is at last beginning to work, as this year councils cannot blame increases on anybody except themselves."

Letters, page 13

Stance on sovereignty wins wide support

DUBLIN SUMMIT

exercise only marginal influence on events?

"It is now not plain that the Prime Minister has made herself a mere spectator, the lame duck of the Community and she has only herself to blame!"

Mrs Thatcher said that, on inflation, she had nothing to add to what she had said after the Madrid summit.

On the statement on Lithuania, there had been a meeting a week earlier of all the foreign ministers which had issued a joint communiqué with which Britain had been associated.

The communiqué had been issued in terms of the Political Co-operation Treaty which required all states to consult one another if possible, before making statements.

Chancellor Kohl and President Mitterrand had not consulted others before they issued their statement, although it was in the Political Co-operation Treaty that they should have done so.

"I am not surprised or disappointed that they did not think I mean that because we agree on political co-operation, does not mean that we relinquish sovereignty, either unilaterally or bilaterally, and we can make our own statements."

"I think it was rather on my side that they were giving practical evidence that they did not intend to give up their sovereignty, unilaterally or bilaterally, even though they were talking without any definition whatever of political union."

Regarding the document put forward about political union, Chancellor Kohl and President Mitterrand had been talking of political union without defining it. The document talked of increased efficiency of the Community institutions, increased economic union and monetary union. But repetition of the word "union" did not define political union.

"Does it not occur to her that Chancellor Kohl and President Mitterrand are taking specific and important initiatives and Britain is not directly involved? It is because of the Prime Minister that our country has been put on the sideline and it is left to others to determine the course and nature of the new Europe."

"We are just six weeks away from a European summit where we will consider proposals for an inter-governmental conference on political union. Is it not obvious that the Prime Minister has no positive strategy for that summit? Do not these things make it crystal clear that, because of the way in which the

Prime Minister conducts affairs, she has been pushed to the fringe from which she can



Mr Howell: Strong case for political progress

"In this session one was one of the principal players, one of the principal political players, but many people supported what I said, and we got our own way in asking the foreign ministers to analyse what political union meant."

Mr David Howell (Guildford, C), chairman of the foreign affairs committee, said that the Prime Minister had been right in Dublin to seek a clearer definition of what was meant by European political union.

There was a strong case for further political progress and development in Europe, but that should be constitutionally based on the strength of the role of national parliaments and not on bureaucratic centralism or by increasing the power of centralized institutions without proper accountability.

The Prime Minister had made an excellent start in putting that forward and should continue with vigour.

Mrs Thatcher said that it seemed that there had been a tendency to increase the central powers of the Commission, but that was the wrong way. A greater distribution of powers was needed, and those powers should be taken through national parliaments and the Council of Ministers.

Mr James Molyneux, leader of the UUP, said that the Prime Minister's strong statement in defence of parliamentary sovereignty accurately reflected the views of people not only in Northern Ireland but also throughout the United Kingdom (Conservative cheers).

Mrs Thatcher said that the statement "does reflect our views". She added: "We are by far the oldest Parliament. Probably we report far more often to our Parliament about everything that goes on in the EC than many other heads of Government."

Not being prepared at the start to put any limitation on political union was rather alarming because it could mean going step by step towards relinquishing those things which are vital to our parliamentary tradition."

"We shall have our own proposals about making the institutions work better. We are aware of the enormous powers vested in a non-elected Commission body and do not think that they should be increased."

There would be a tremendous effort to increase them under monetary union and economic union. "That is where the main battles will come, I think." But everything would have to come back to the House for approval.

Mr Peter Shore (Bethnal Green and Stepney, Lab) said that the Prime Minister had been right in Dublin to welcome the reunification of the two Germanies. It was a pity that the EC was not similarly forthcoming about bringing in the other independent countries of Eastern Europe.

"It took a good deal to get that done at this informal summit, but it is now being done."

Sir Russell Johnston, Liberal Democrat spokesman on Eu-

rope, said: "Many people in all parties and throughout Britain do not necessarily regard it as being in Britain's best interests that the Prime Minister gets her own way, and many feel that her attitude in Dublin was negative and isolating."

Many felt that the development of a federal Europe, far from being a threat, was the best protection of our realistic sovereignty and economic well-being.

Mrs Thatcher: "It is not my way that one achieves. It is the way that this Government feels is best for Britain. It has done very well for Britain in finance, agriculture, trade, competition and so on — in particular in getting a realistic budget."

"Clearly Sir Russell does not mind losing, little by little — even faster than that — the powers of this House to a federal Europe. I disagree with him."

Any more centralization should be stopped, and they should make sure that the future of the Community involved implementing things through national parliaments.

The Rev Ian Paisley (North Antrim, DUP) said that the president of the Commission had made clear that he envisaged European political union in a structure where most decisions which affected the people of this nation would be taken in Brussels, and Chancellor Kohl had made clear in Dublin that he saw more and more power being vested in the non-elected Commission.

In view of that, could the Prime Minister give a categorical assurance that if there was a move to change the Treaty of Rome she would give the nation the opportunity by referendum to say if that course should be followed or not?

Mrs Thatcher said that the next meeting in Dublin in June would receive a report from foreign ministers who would doubtless by then have put forward proposals about the way forward. She believed that an inter-governmental conference would be set up because most people wanted it and it could be done by simple majority vote.

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Soviet reform groups steal the show in Red Square

From Mary Dejevsky
Moscow

THE scarcely believable news was around Moscow within the hour: "We drove them out"; "They couldn't stand it"; "We won", people chattered to each other. At 11.30 on May Day morning, as grey clouds replaced the early sunshine, President Gorbachov and his party ended their public expression of solidarity with the Soviet and international working class and walked silently from Red Square to shouts of "Shame" and whistles of derision.

For the previous half-hour, the President and his group had stood on top of the Lenin mausoleum facing a multi-coloured crowd of banner-waving enthusiasts. Confronted with this part-happy, part-angry crowd, the official group looked calm, if solemn, but after a rustle of consultation and a glance at the television cameras, which were winding down their live coverage, they left.

Behind the mausoleum, in semi-

privacy, Mrs Raisa Gorbachov talked animatedly to Mr Yuri Prokofyev, the Moscow Communist Party leader, without whose recommendation the demonstration would not have been permitted and whose job may now be on the line. Mr Prokofyev then spent several minutes in conversation with Mr Gavril Popov, the new Mayor of Moscow — whose appearance on the platform earlier had been hailed with chants of "Well done" — "Mo-lo-dets... Mo-lo-dets" — but neither reappeared to calm the crowd.

The demonstrators wound their way through Red Square, along a complex of crowd-control corridors formed by police and plain-clothes "volunteers" for another hour before being eased out by deaf police manoeuvring.

By 1 pm, the plain-clothes brigades had been replaced by uniformed police and the square was empty except for a small group of women cleaners, sweeping the cobbles vainly with small brooms, a dozen water trucks to hose

down the square, and a small group of women — "Mothers Against Violence in the Army" — demonstrating against the bullying that had cost their sons' lives. They were escorted firmly from the square.

It had been a Moscow May Day demonstration like no other. Everybody who was anybody in the informal movements was there: from the Democratic Platform (the recently anathematized reform wing of the Communist Party), through the Liberals and the Democrats and the Social Democrats, to the late Dr Andrei Sakharov's Memorial Group and the anarcho-syndicalists with their distinctive red and black banners.

The Lithuanians and their backers were also out in force, with the red, yellow and green flags of "Free Lithuania" and their anti-blockade placards: "Gorbachov, Let Lithuania Go", "Long Live Free Lithuania", "Stop Strangling Lithuania".

Throughout, the joyful disorder of the crowd had been punctuated by the

precision of the Sibut unit changing the ceremonial guard in front of the mausoleum. The chanting and whistling of the demonstrators had been all but drowned for the official guests by the blaring "background" music, part-martial, part-pop and part-uplifting exhortations to better work. The old was giving way to the new, but not quite yet.

When the country's top leaders turned and left, there was a feeling that they had, perhaps for the first time, met the whole multiplicity of their people face to face — and had not liked what they saw.

May Day 1990 was different from previous May Days not only in its denouement. The international celebration of labour had been given a "kinder, gentler look". The prevailing colour was not red pale blues dominated the giant billboards of Marx, Engels and Lenin in Red Square. Public buildings and bus stops were adorned with pastel flower motifs and multi-coloured flags hung from the bridges.

A weak cheer went up, the hurrahs of

morning by the security. Central Moscow looked, for almost the first time in the past year, like a thoroughly totalitarian city. The vast squares were empty of civilians, occupied by army lorries.

Falsely cheerful music screamed from false loudspeakers. Police, Interior Ministry troops and regulars patrolled the pavements, and the thugs who form the KGB's reserve guard — dully-dressed youths with bulging muscles and poor complexions — thronged each entry point to Red Square.

At 9.55, groups of trade unionists advanced from their mustering points around the inner ring-road behind their red banners to converge and enter the square as a symbolic wave of working class solidarity. The Politburo group, which included leaders of official trade unions and the new leaders of Moscow City Council, walked on to the mausoleum to greet the crowd as the Kremlin clock struck 10.

But the effect was spoilt on May Day

former years were not even invited, and

any triumphalism that might have permeated the occasion drained away as trade union speaker after speaker criticized the leadership for indecision, called for the living standards of workers to be maintained and damned the reform programme with faint praise. "We want *perestroika*, but not at any cost", their officially printed banners said. "Give us real wages for real work," said others.

The perfunctory trade union gathering was over within 40 minutes — a sad comment on the state of labour internationalism in its erstwhile home. Slowly, the 50,000 or so demonstrators filed out of the main square, and the informal groups stood where they had demonstrated less than an hour before, the flags of Free Lithuania at their head, waiting for the square to be theirs. For nearly two hours, it was theirs — though it could be a very long time before it is so again.

Leading article, page 13

Two Berlins unite for May Day festivities

From Anne McElroy, East Berlin

BERLINERS from East and West yesterday celebrated their first joint May Day since 1946, shaking off the divisions and rhetoric of the emotionally charged workers' day holiday to enjoy demonstrations, beer and sausages together.

On the 100th anniversary of the festival, which has always had a special significance for the city known since the beginning of the century as Red Berlin, tens of thousands of East Berliners marched through the Brandenburg Gate to hear politicians' and trade unionists' speeches in front of the Reichstag.

But the Karl-Marx-Allee, the traditional scene of the May Day rallies carefully orchestrated by the former regime to rival Moscow's, remained empty. A year ago a crowd of 800,000 waved to the seemingly unbudgeable Herr Erich Honecker and heard the trade unionist Herr Harry Tisch promise that "imperialism will never defeat socialism in the colours of the GDR".

Security forces were always on hand, however, to prevent any unscheduled revolutionary activity. This year, in the largest joint policing operation so far, the forces from both sides of the city worked together to prevent the predicted escalation in violence.

They had feared that the

riots, which are now almost traditional on May Day in the western borough of Kreuzberg, neighbouring the Wall and constant flashpoint, could spread into the East, especially after an increase in neo-Nazi and anarchist activity on both sides of the Wall. However, it was considered a quiet afternoon in Kreuzberg, despite the broken glass littering the streets, boarded-up shop windows and a march of several thousand featuring balaclava-clad "freedom fighters".

The *Autonomes* — the autonomous ones — dressed in black, who populate the area, occupied themselves by chanting slogans about killing the rich, but were otherwise quite well behaved. The May Day riots here two years ago were the most violent since 1968 and the authorities now prefer to indulge in "low-profile peacekeeping".

The *Autonomes* are a motley mixture of revolutionaries in search of a cause and rich kids fleeing from the prosperous confines of West German society for a few years of anarchic freedom in Berlin. Even the most militant West German political groups are shy about being identified with them.

Herr Georg Fischer, who said he would rather be known as "Rat", bemoaned the lack of violence or "a good day out" as he put it, complaining that West Berlin had been overtaken by London as the rioters' paradise. Clutching his pet rat, he set off determinedly in search of someone to help organize trouble and handed out an invitation to an illegal late-night street party bearing the injunction "bring your own Molotov cocktail".

Unrest grows in Albania

From Dessa Trevisan
Belgrade

ALBANIA's leader, Mr Ramiz Alia, reformists and diehard Albanian communists seem close to a showdown, with reports of fresh unrest reaching here from several towns. The political battle has now been moved to the streets, with Mr Alia's supporters clearly relying on popular support to help push through change.

Unrest was reported in Vlore, Korce and Elbasan, where demonstrators called for the toppling of Mrs Nexhmije Hoxha, the widow of Albania's deceased strongman, who has been the power behind the throne and a leading hardliner.

In Vlore, on the Adriatic, a skirmish between football fans erupted into a political demonstration against the secret police. In Durres, demonstrators demanded the sacking of the local party leader. In all the demonstrations the crowds were shouting "long live Ramiz Alia, down with Nezhmije", suggesting that the two personalities symbolize the two opposing currents and indicating that Mr Alia's more recent reformist promises are gaining the upper hand.

Politika, the Yugoslav daily newspaper published in Belgrade, claimed that special riot police were recently deployed in Shkoder, the northern Albanian town with a large Roman Catholic population which was the scene of recent demonstrations by students demanding democratization.

Mr Alia has so far carefully avoided any direct confrontation with the hardliners, but a speech he delivered last month, in which he offered to restore diplomatic relations with both the Soviet Union and the United States, marked a watershed, suggesting that his reformist wing now believes itself to be strong enough to move into a battle against the still powerful communist old guard.

Mormons rewrite their ritual

Salt Lake City — In a rare revision of Mormon ritual, the church has dropped wording that required women to pledge to obey their husbands and portrayed the clergy of other religions as agents of Satan.

Women must now vow to obey God rather than their husbands in the "endowment" ceremony, a ritual the church teaches is necessary to enable members to be with God after death.

The revised ritual took effect last month in ceremonies performed in the 43 temples.

Bodies claimed

Panama City — Seven Panamanians killed during December's US military invasion and buried in a common grave have been identified by relatives. (AP)



Red-letter day: Workers across the globe celebrating May Day in diverse ways. China, unlike other socialist countries, does not organize parades, and this couple in Peking, left, marked the day with ballroom dancing. In Kathmandu, top, Nepalese women workers took part in a peaceful march, while in Cape Town, South Africa, bottom, black workers staged a rather more belligerent parade carrying mock weapons

Cubans proudly display their socialist colours amid a carnival atmosphere

By Our Foreign Staff

IN Cuba, three million workers, ignoring a popular swing against communism in Eastern Europe, celebrated May Day across the country with mass marches billed by the Government as a show of support for President Castro and his socialist system.

In contrast to more subdued parades in East European countries that have moved away from communism, Cuba's well-organized celebration of Workers' Day was the most spectacular in the western hemisphere and among the biggest in the world.

President Castro, wearing his familiar olive-green uniform and cap, watched through binoculars from a reviewing stand as more than half a million workers, soldiers and youngsters carrying flags and banners marched through Havana's Revolution Square to the sound of revolutionary songs blared from dozens of loudspeakers.

A group of 10,000 young Cubans, including gymnasts and karate fighters robed in white, injected a carnival-like atmosphere to the Havana march, cheering and waving to the Cuban leader. Similar parades were held across the island and Cuban workers' leaders said nearly a third of the island's more than 10 million people were involved.

President Castro has firmly rejected the Western-leaning economic and political reforms embraced by former communist allies in Eastern Europe and has insisted Cuba will never abandon socialism or return to capitalism.

"Socialism or Death" and "Viva Fidel" were the most common messages displayed in the sea of banners and red and black flags that fluttered above the marchers in Havana.

In a brief address to the huge crowd in the capital, Señor Pedro Ross, head of the Cuban Workers' Union, called on Cuban workers to unite against external pressure on Cuba to abandon socialism.

"Faced with the complex panorama of today's world, Cuba's example takes on a special significance. We have faith in the workers of the world," Señor Ross said.

In Ethiopia, President Mengistu admitted civil war was hitting the country.

There was no confirmation whether either of the victims was hit by police fire. Some

setbacks in a May Day speech and lamented that popular support for his Government's cause was sagging. "The mood of the people is no longer as militant as it once was and the enemies of the country are cashing in on this situation in their bid to break up the country," he told a rally in Addis Ababa.

"In this struggle, victories and setbacks, ups and downs, are common occurrences... It is unbecoming for a great people struggling to build a great country to be adulterated in times of victory and then be depressed in times of difficulty," he said. He warned that "an irreversible historic catastrophe is bound to occur if the time for struggle and sacrifice... is allowed to slip by inaction."

Police in Turkey arrested more than 1,000 people in Istanbul in violent May Day demonstrations in which at least two people were shot and wounded. Six policemen were injured in clashes, one seriously, police added.

There was no confirmation whether either of the victims was hit by police fire. Some

Turkish newspapers said more than 30 people were wounded. The demonstrations were held despite a Government ban on May Day rallies after one person was killed and 36 were wounded in May Day clashes last year.

Opponents of the interim Government in Bucharest planned nationwide demonstrations as Romanians celebrated their first May Day in 40 years without organized Communist rallies.

Meanwhile, the non-stop protest against President Iliescu entered its tenth day, and 21 of the anti-Government protesters said they had stopped eating to support demands that he resign.

In Buenos Aires, President Menem injected the Falklands issue into his May Day State of the nation address to Congress, describing the recovery of the islands as the top priority of his Government's foreign policy. However, he also hedged by highlighting the restoration of diplomatic relations with Britain as one of his main aims.

Alongside the traditional May Day trade union marches

in Paris — which drew several thousand people — M Jean-Marie Le Pen has for the last few years carved out his niche by organizing his monarchial National Front march.

His extreme right-wing followers, ranging from the French equivalent of Sloane Rangers, through old soldiers to skinheads do not, of course, march for workers' rights, but for a vision of France for the富人 without organized Communist rallies.

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There were also protests at Government plans to introduce new anti-racist legislation to protect people not originally of French origin from increasing common verbal and physical attacks, which the Front says is an attack on freedom of expression.

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Poland's far right turns on Jews and Germans

From Roger Boyes
Warsaw



Mr Michnik: Tolerance and love for communists

SEVERAL hundred Poles shouting "Get the Jew bairns", some of them waving black anarchist banners, charged and besieged an anti-socialist congress convened yesterday by seven extreme nationalist parties. A phalanx of skinheads, engaged by the nationalists, flung concussion grenades and then retreated to a courtyard inside the towering Stalinist Palace of Culture where the congress was being held.

The congress, organized by Mr Janusz Korwin-Mikke of the Union for Realpolitik, was intended as a sub to communists and socialists who have traditionally celebrated May Day as a workers' holiday. The seven parties are on the extreme right and share a belief in the free market, nationalist traditions and strict Catholic values. As discussion in the congress showed, many also hold anti-Semitic and anti-German views.

The left-wingers in Solidarity, argued Mr Kwiecinski, needed to keep communism alive so that they could

portray themselves as being in the centre of the political spectrum.

In the corridors, the skinheads were impatient for action. A first whiff came at the beginning of the congress when barely 100 radicals taunted the queue of delegates, a blend of the old who remembered the pre-war nationalist parties, and a dandified young, in short hair and bow ties. "May Day is our holiday," jeered the protesters, until they were shooed away by the skinheads. When the real charges began later in the day, the skinhead bodyguards in made-in-Poland, heavy-duty boots, fought hard. "Remember King Jan Sobieski's tactics," their paunchy commander told them. "Don't attack now; be patient; wait until the snow falls."

"But there ain't no snow," said one of the skinheads, with perfect accuracy.

The rally of the communists — or rather Social Democrats, under the

party's new nomenclature — was an exercise in nostalgia, a very faint echo of the red-flagged parades that used to clog the streets of Warsaw

Iran and Syria seek dividends in hostage release

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor

THE release of two American hostages in nine days has again demonstrated that the keys to the underground prisons of Beirut lie in Tehran and Damascus.

The two countries, united by fear and hatred of Iraq, are under strong economic pressure to end the feds with the West that have stunted their growth. The Iranian leadership, less secure than that of Syria, has had to move cautiously against fierce objections from anti-Western hardliners, who believe that the spirit of the 1979 revolution is being undermined.

President Rafsanjani, a pragmatist rather than a moderate, has been opposed at every move by hardliners led by Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, the former Interior Minister.

The new pragmatism of President Assad of Syria stems from the signals from Moscow that Damascus can no longer count on its generosity. Huge cheap loans and vast military supplies from the Soviet Union allowed him to be the maverick of the Middle East, and a thorn in the side of the moderate leaders of Egypt, Morocco and Jordan.

Since Moscow began cutting back, President Assad has mended his fences with all three countries, culminating in the restoration of diplomatic links with Cairo in January. Given that Syria had worked hardest to undermine the Camp David Middle East peace treaty of 1979, President Assad could not hope for a better relationship with the

United States without patching up his differences with President Mubarak.

Washington, for its part, had strong diplomatic reasons for wanting better ties with President Assad. It has been able to use the link between Damascus and Tehran as a channel for US-Iran contacts without risking serious criticism in the American media.

Relations between Washington and Syria recovered fairly quickly from the setback caused by the involvement of Syrian intelligence officers in an attempt by Nezar Hindawi to smuggle a bomb on to an El Al plane at Heathrow. Britain broke relations over the affair in 1986, and has spurned all overtures since then. It persuaded the United States and the European Community to ban high-level visits to Damascus, but this proved to be a short-lived diplomatic slap on the wrist.

The US-Syrian relationship was back in business by June 1987, with the grudging but public approval of the British Government. It has proved vital in President Bush's efforts to obtain the release of the hostages without negotiating openly with Tehran.

President Bush has thanked both countries for their role, and seems likely to show his pleasure in a tangible form. President Assad will not seriously expect US aid, but he probably assumes that warmer ties will produce trade and diplomatic advantages.

It was Iran's wish to spread its revolution to Lebanon that led to the creation of the terrorist groups. They sprang from efforts by the Iranian movement Hezbollah, the "Party of God", to politicise Lebanon's 1.2 million Shia Muslims. The effect was to create a body of extreme hardliners.

Britain, the former colonial power, was seen as "the little devil", an object of special hatred. However, President Rafsanjani has made a series of overtures towards Britain, each of which was undermined by the militants.

Britain and Iran had had plans to restore full diplomatic relations in February, 1989, but it was then that Ayatollah Khomeini announced his "fatwa" against Salman Rushdie.

The last overture President Rafsanjani made was just after his election to the presidency, when he said he was prepared to use his influence with the hostage-takers. He was promptly attacked by Hojatoleslam Mohtashemi.

This bodes ill for the British hostages. It is generally accepted that they are most likely to be released as a result of the resumption of normal relations. However, the Government is unwilling to hold talks until Tehran makes what it calls "a gesture", which amounts to demanding pre-conditions. Its caution is understandable, but without more flexibility the British hostages could be the last to see the daylight.



Tasting freedom: A jubilant Mr Frank Reed, top, arriving in Frankfurt yesterday, and Mr Robert Pohill and his wife meeting President Bush at the White House

Reed seeks confirmation of his return to real life

From Ian Murray, Bonn

BLINKING in the strong spring sunshine, Mr Frank Reed flew into the United States Air Force Rhein-Main base at Frankfurt yesterday morning, the second American hostage from Beirut in just over a week to take the same route through Damascus to freedom.

At the base, when he emerged on the steps of the C141 Starlifter which had brought him from Damascus, he was given a VIP welcome. Saluted by an honour guard of American airmen, he walked along a red carpet to be greeted by Mr Alexander Rattray, the American Consul General in Frankfurt. On the way he gave a victory sign and blew a kiss to the cheering, clapping airmen. Suddenly he stopped and touched the ground as though wanting to be sure that it was all real.

After being blindfolded for much of the 43 months he spent in captivity, he seemed not quite sure of where to put his feet, and seemed not so fit as Professor Robert Pohill, who was released a week earlier and had been hooded only briefly during his time as a prisoner. A medical report issued after Mr Reed's arrival at the Lindsey Air Force Hospital in Wiesbaden said he was tired and weak after his ordeal. "He has lost significant weight and muscle mass from a lack of exercise and a marginal diet," it said. He otherwise felt well.

Mr Reed's Syrian-born wife Fahima ("Fifi") and their son Tarek, aged nine, flew in from Boston. They were able to join him in his hospital suite, where he chatted to staff and Washington officials about his ordeal. He was hungry and ordered beer and a medium rare steak for lunch.

During the next few days, while medical tests continue, he is expected to undergo a preliminary debriefing by State Department experts seeking clues which will help to win the release of other hostages held in Lebanon.

In public statements since his release, Mr Reed has been diplomatically careful to thank the Syrians for their part in winning his release and to exonerate the Lebanese people from any blame for his captivity.

This is in contrast to Professor Pohill, who said it was anger about his captors which kept him sane during his captivity.

• THE HAGUE: American and Iranian officials met here yesterday for talks on financial disputes arising from the 1979 revolution in Iran and Tehran's 44-day detention of US hostages. Mr Abraham Sofaer, the US State Department legal adviser, flew to The Netherlands for talks with Mr Goudarz Eftekhar, his Iranian counterpart, over cases before the Iran-US Claims Tribunal, the American Embassy said.

The tribunal, set up in 1981 under an accord which freed 52 US hostages in Tehran, seeks to settle financial claims made by both countries. Yesterday was the eighth in a series of talks which began last summer. (Reuter)

want to be entertained when I had lost my freedom". Psychiatrists studying his case regard this type of firmness as a crucial factor in keeping mentally balanced during prolonged confinement and uncertainty.

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US records big fall in deaths from terrorism

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

THE level of international terrorism dropped by 38 per cent last year, from 856 incidents in 1988 to 528, according to the State Department's latest annual report.

The number of victims worldwide fell from 638 killed and 1,125 wounded to 390 killed and 397 wounded. The only terrorist "spectacular" last year was the bombing of a French commercial airliner over Niger last September, which accounted for 171 deaths.

The report, Patterns of Global Terrorism: 1989, attributed the "major decrease" in terrorism to in-fighting within the Abu Nidal organization, the renunciation of violence by Mr Yassir Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization, the end of the Afghan Government's terrorist campaign in Pakistan, the reluctance of states such as Libya and Syria to be found sponsoring terrorists, and improved counter-terrorist measures.

Terrorist "spectaculars" like aircraft bombings and hijackings "may be becoming more rare" as terrorists find them harder to carry out and fail to achieve their goals, the report said.

However, it cautions that the level of terrorism could well increase again, because of increasing rivalries in the Middle East, the continuing threat posed by Basque and Northern Ireland terrorists, the desire of terrorists in the Philippines to see the US withdraw, and the danger from diehard supporters of General Manuel Noriega in Panama.

"We cannot become complacent. Terrorism is an ongoing threat, and we must continue to oppose it vigorously," said Mr Morris Busby, US co-ordinator for counter-terrorism, in his foreword.

Twenty-three Iranians were arrested and deported during the year, and one blew himself up while priming a bomb. British interests were also attacked in Pakistan, Turkey, Egypt, Peru, West Germany, Iraq and Lebanon.

"The UK was a leader in international efforts to combat terrorism in 1989," the report noted.

The other four are Cuba,

Jerusalem priests clash with police

From Richard Owen, Jerusalem

AS THE majority of the 150 militant Jewish settlers occupying a disputed hostel in the Christian quarter of the Old City evacuated the building yesterday, angry Greek Orthodox priests in their distinctive black hats and surplices jostled with police and settlers in a vain attempt to enter the hostel and check its condition. By midday yesterday, 130 of the settlers who moved into the hostel just before Easter had discreetly melted away.

But 20 remained behind, as authorized by last week's Supreme Court decision, as agents of the Panama-based company which claims to have bought the lease on the hostel, known as St John's Hospice. The hostel is owned by the Greek Orthodox Church. "We just came to see if those who should have left have done so," one priest said, clearly distraught. "But even the police will not give us permission."

The dispute over the lease has still to be settled by the Israeli courts. The Christian community in the Old City, however, strongly suspects that those settlers who have gone fully intend to return. Mr Shmuel Ekvitar, a spokesman for the settlers' group, said: "The honour of the court, and our desire to fulfil not only the letter but also the spirit of the law, have led us to retain only 20 tenants in the building holding the keys." But he added that the mysterious Panamanian front company had the cash to buy other buildings in the Old City in which Jews could settle.

The US State Department and American Jewish groups were angered and dismayed last week that the Israeli Government led by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the transition Prime Minister, had made available \$1.8 million (£1.1 million) in official funds to enable the settlers to move in. Their action was the first attempt by Jews to move into the Christian Quarter since Israel captured the Old City from the Jordanians in 1967.

The new American dream: getting rich quick giving advice on how to go broke

From Charles Bremner, New York

THESE are disorientating times for younger Americans. After a childhood of suburban ease and endless promise, they are now struggling to adjust to a life of contracting limits not suffered by their parents.

He said the ANC was indebted to the majority of whites who had supported the Government in opening negotiations, as well as to the international community for its support. "We will do everything in our power to make a success of the present exercise."

Mr Lekota added that ANC morale was high, despite persistent criticism of its stance by the more militant Pan-Africanist Congress and Azanian People's Organization. "This criticism is not well founded. We are only engaging in talks about negotiations in which everyone can participate."

Optimism is fuelled by the mutual respect which has developed between President de Klerk, who is leading the government team, and Mr Nelson Mandela, the ANC deputy president. In key supporting roles, the keen intellect of Dr Viljoen is matched by the astuteness of Mr Thabo Mbeki, the urbane ANC director of international relations.

Across the country, Debtors Anonymous, a self-help society for compulsive overspenders, is opening chapters in even the smallest of towns. In New York, the subways and bus shelters are full of advertisements for firms offering to help save you from financial disaster — for a hefty fee. Now, with the housing market contracting, salaries falling behind inflation, and

and the figure is expected to

leap much higher in 1990. Among the better known names were Morton Downey Jr, a television talk-show host, and Francis Ford Coppola, the film director. The charm of personal bankruptcy is that you are often allowed to keep considerable assets while wiping clean the slate. Angry creditors can no longer harass a debtor and the bailiffs may no longer evict you.

In some states such as Florida, an indigent may keep a house and up to 160 acres —

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Cracks show in the wall of Spanish socialism

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

SEÑORA Carmen Romero de González, a socialist MP from Cádiz, was applauded from the sidelines as she marched in the May Day demonstration staged here yesterday by Spain's two principal trade union organizations.

The applause was not for her husband, Señor Felipe González, the Prime Minister. It was for her, precisely because she chose to identify herself with the left-wing opposition to the Socialist Government.

The presence of Señora Romero de González was symptomatic of the cracks that have developed in the formerly solid wall of Spanish socialism as the Government slogs through its third term of office, having failed last October, for the first time since 1982, to win an absolute majority in Parliament. The cracks have spread upward to the very cupola of power.

She stood close to Señor Nicolás Redondo, the General Labour Union's secretary general, at the end of the march when he addressed the gathering, saying that the Government "is more like a right-wing government than a socialist one." Among their fellow marchers were wives of paramilitary Civil Guard policemen, demanding their



Señora González: Cheers for supporting opposition

husbands' right to form a trade union. Several of the men have been imprisoned because the Government refuses to recognize that right.

It was the second successive year that the socialist General Labour Union marched side by side with the communist Workers' Commissions trade union, in a defiant gesture of independence from the ruling Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE), which it spawned a century ago.

The May Day march came one day after Señor Ricardo García Dámborena, who was the most outspoken left-wing dissident within the PSOE, registered a new party, Social Democracy, under his own

name. Only last month the centrist faction, led by Señor Alfonso Guerra, the Deputy Prime Minister, succeeded in imposing its candidate for the Andalusian regional presidency, Señor Manuel Chaves, formerly the Labour Minister, and thus denied support for Señor José Rodríguez de la Borbolla, the incumbent, who is a fellow Socialist.

Señor García Dámborena's says his splinter party aims to occupy the space which the Socialist Party has vacated with its shift to the right. However, it is probably too late for Social Democracy to take part in the Andalusian elections, which are scheduled for June 23. The acid test for the new party will come next December, in the Basque regional elections, especially

considering that its leader is from that region.

Señor Joaquín Leguina, the Socialist president of the Madrid regional government, has also fallen out of favour with Señor Guerra, who is more powerful within the party than the Secretary General, Señor González himself.

Recalling a Spanish proverb which says: "When you see your neighbour's beard cut off, start soaking your own," Señor Leguina said, following the party's failure to renew its support for the Andalusian regional leader: "I'm soaking my whiskers every day."

Revelations of corruption which have tainted both main parties, the PSOE and the Popular Party, may reduce the big parties' support at the polls in favour of smaller and regional groups. Perhaps the Andalusian elections will give some indication of such a tendency.

One scandal involves a brother of Señor Guerra, who allegedly used a government office to conduct private, not state, business.

Señor González's determined loyalty to Señor Guerra could get the Prime Minister himself into political trouble. There is already muted dissent within the Cabinet about the handling of the Guerra affair.



Firing line: South Korean riot police launching tear gas grenades in a clash with radical students after an anti-government demonstration in Seoul yesterday

Strikers paralyse Korean factories

Ulsan, South Korea

MOST factories in Ulsan, the power base of South Korea's biggest exporter, Hyundai, were paralysed yesterday as workers joined strikes to protest over a police raid on Hyundai's shipyard.

Outside the south-eastern city, however, no large-scale strikes were reported in spite of earlier fears of nationwide walkouts on May Day. Witnesses said workers were blocked by a huge police force that thwarted plans for rallies in the key Massan-Changwon industrial area of the city. Two thousand workers clashed with riot police, they said.

Hyundai Motor Company's 22,000 workers marched peacefully through Ulsan after voting to strike for two more days until next Monday. Wednesday and Saturday are national holidays in South Korea. Seventeen thousand students clashed with riot police firing tear gas in Seoul and other cities in anti-government demonstrations.

Police raided the shipyard at dawn on Saturday to evict several thousand striking workers who were protesting against the arrest of union leaders. The raid ignited fury and led to prolonged street battles. (Reuters)

Quayle geared up for serious role in Europe

From Peter Stothard
US Editor, Washington

THE office of the Vice-President is very much grander than that of his boss. There is more gold statuary and exotic carving and more portraits in oil than in the Oval Office of the White House.

Vice-President Dan Quayle himself, however, as all the world now knows, is not very grand. When he speaks, he does not exactly fill a room, as a distinguished diplomat pointed out the other day.

The man who will meet Mrs Thatcher on Sunday on his first official European tour is modest—and with reason, say critics. He is no joke, according to a *Time* magazine cover last month proclaiming another "probing look" into the man who would be America's first citizen should anything happen to Mr Bush.

In an interview with British correspondents, Mr Quayle expressed his dislike of the *Time* piece, except for a phrase describing him as a "late bloomer." "That's true," he said, "and you can quote that." Sitting on his antique desk, between a life-size toy dog and a spray-painted chunk of the Berlin Wall, he gave the impression of a naturally patient man.

Officially Mr Quayle is

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Officially Mr Quayle is

Kennedy scion fails bar exam

From Charles Bremner
New York

BANNER headlines on all three tabloids here yesterday were unanimous: "The Hunk Flunks". For the Big Apple, there was no problem decoding the message—it referred to Mr John F. Kennedy Jr, the only citizen who is as famous for failing exams as he is for his good looks.

Declared by a recent magazine to be "the sexiest man alive", the son of the late President had for the second time failed to gain admission to the New York bar. He will be given one more chance before losing his job as an assistant district attorney in Manhattan. "I'm clearly not a major legal genius," Mr Kennedy, aged 29, said, promising to take the examination again and again "until I'm 95".

The crown prince of the Kennedy dynasty was upstaged by the offspring of another famous family. Miss Madeline Cuomo, daughter of Mr Mario Cuomo, New York's Governor, cruised through the bar examination at her first try. Mr Kennedy's sister, Caroline, passed a couple of years ago.

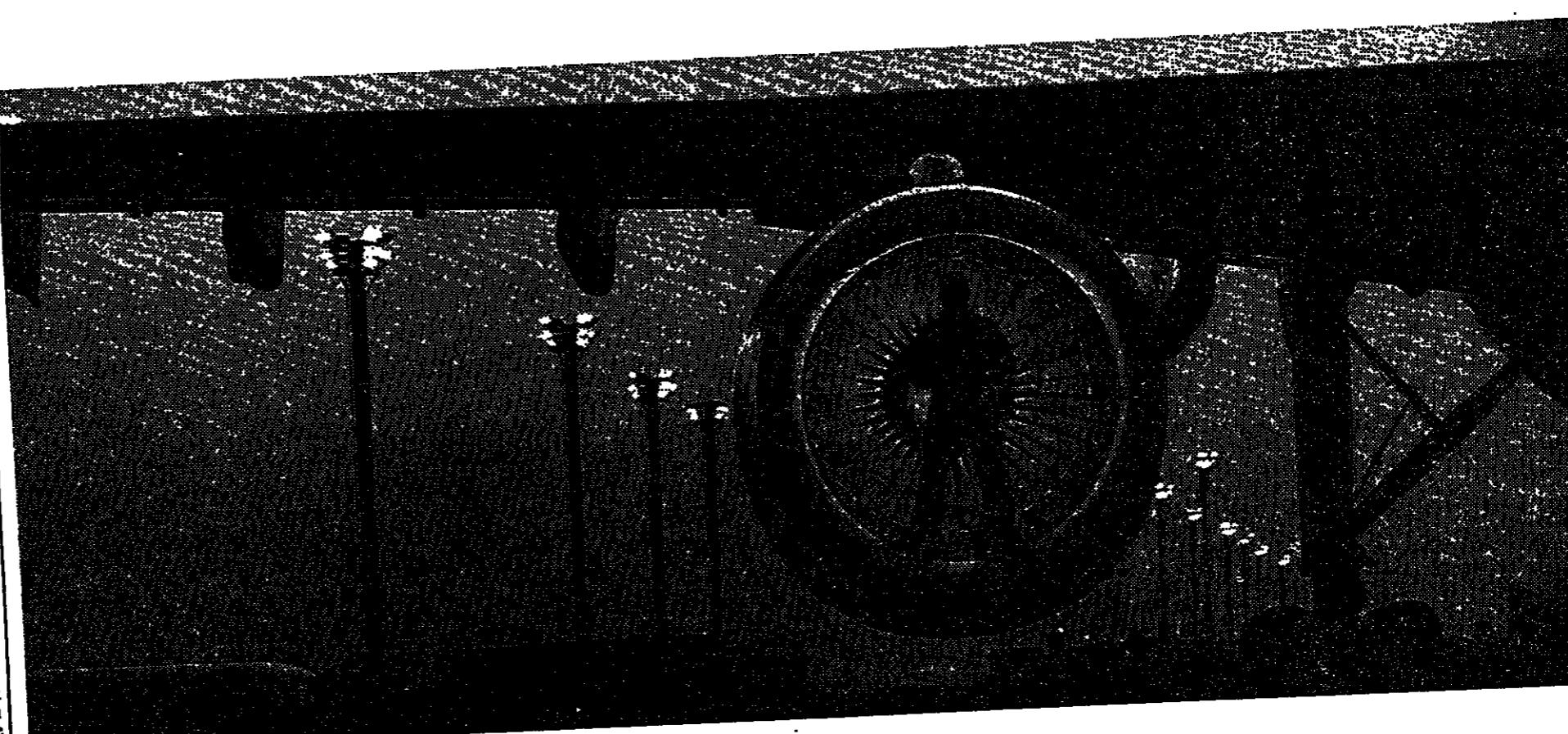
New York's most eligible bachelor can, however, take comfort from illustrious precedent: his late Uncle Robert, also a former Manhattan district attorney, failed the test on his first try—which did not stop him going on to become a senator and United States Attorney General.

Mr Kennedy received acres of advice from the local media yesterday, including 10 tips from the *New York Post*. Number one was: "Ditch the whole thing, go to the beach and let delicious babes chase you for the rest of your life."



Mr Quayle: "Awol from history" for 25 years

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From gesture to realism

Martin Jacques

Cast your mind back just three years, to early 1987. The campaign against the loony left in Labour councils, spearheaded by Norman Tebbit, then chairman of the Conservative Party, was in full swing. The tabloid press was replete with stories of the lurid actions of London Labour councils. Remember the alleged banning of black bin-liners and outlawing of "Baa baa black sheep" on the grounds of racism? The damage to Labour was enormous.

How the mood has changed, even in an area which until so recently was one of Labour's greatest vulnerabilities. There has been only a mild attempt to revive the old chestnut in the campaign for tomorrow's local elections, and it has completely failed. No doubt the main reason is the transformed political mood, but another is that Labour local councils have travelled a long way since the nightmare days leading up to the last general election.

For much of the 1980s, a new kind of leftism prevailed in many Labour councils. Its followers regarded local government as the front line in the fight against Thatcherism. They engaged in a new brand of gesture politics which saw flags flying above town halls and high-profile stances on racism and sexism. But they also came up with some sharp ideas, notably the GLC's cheap fares policy.

However, well before 1987 the show was in trouble. Gesture politics was on the run. Serious splits began to occur, and the campaigns against rate-capping and in defence of services failed to gain public support. The turning point came in 1987. Until Labour's defeat, much of the new politics rested on the idea of a better tomorrow, the Micawber-like belief that something would turn up. Many Labour councils mortgaged themselves to the hilt in expectation of a Labour victory, and when it did not materialize, they found themselves in a horrendous financial situation.

Almost overnight, a new mood began to grip. The politics of *mañana* gave way to the art of survival. Ideology was rapidly jettisoned in the name of pragmatism. The most startling change concerned the private sector. No longer the demon of old, it has come to be seen by many Labour councils as a crucial partner in local regeneration. Such prestige projects as the Olympics in Manchester, the World Student Games in Sheffield, and the convention centre in Birmingham spring to mind, but there are hosts of less well-known examples.

The catalyst for this unlikely affair was necessity: spurned by central government and at their wits' end financially, the Labour councils needed someone to turn to. But necessity has opened eyes

that were previously closed, and many now see a virtue in the new local consensus.

A parallel example is the new interest in Europe. Not only have Labour councils discovered where Brussels is; some have become experts in its financial possibilities. More than one-third of Birmingham's new convention centre, for example, is being funded by the Community. And like the partnership with the private sector, the EC has the advantage of providing Labour councils with a source of power independent of Mrs Thatcher.

There is also a new emphasis among Labour councils on the importance of delivering good services. Complacency and habit have given way, at least partially, to a growing sense that councils have to meet certain standards. There is now a preoccupation with efficiency and good management. Ironically, this has been encouraged by the introduction of compulsory competitive tendering, which has obliged local authorities to ask questions which previously barely occurred to them, such as the function of a particular service or its efficiency.

Meanwhile, the politics which was emblematic of the previous era has been pushed to the margins. Non-cooperation by Labour councils has wilted. When it came to the poll tax, only Lambeth and Liverpool declined to fix a level, and they soon beat a hasty retreat. The crasser forms of gesture politics are now barely visible, and even equal opportunities and police committees have slipped down the agenda.

Kinnockism has triumphed. The new strategy is about pragmatism and realism. Ideology is out. The new message is that councils should work with everybody and anybody to deliver the goods. That's one theme. The other is the fight for survival. Local government is very hard up, and soon will be more so. Permanent staff are deeply demoralized. In London in particular, there is a serious shortage of candidates for council elections. Like teaching, local government is no place to be in 1990.

The casualty in all this is radical new thinking. It is difficult to innovate in a climate of cuts. And the new realism places a higher premium on sobriety than on imagination. None the less, there are new ideas at the margins. There is a growing belief that the old model of local government as administration is no longer appropriate. There is talk of an enabling model, in which what matters is not that the local authority itself should provide the service, but that it should be available and of good quality. Such thinking will need a lot more exposure if local government is to find a solution not only to Thatcherism but to its own crisis of credibility.

Martin Jacques will be writing a weekly column on this page.

...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

The publisher of *GQ* magazine was disappointed recently to discover that his readers were liars. Asked in a survey to state which parts of the magazine they read, few admitted to liking fashion features. Undercover investigations revealed the truth to be rather different. In fact they liked fashion features best of all, being men, were not prepared to admit it to a stranger.

Over the past few years, newspapers and magazines have become increasingly reliant on readership surveys. At the moment, jokes and restaurant reviews, my own specialities, are enjoying something of a boom, but with the green revolution well under way, something tells me that it won't be long before people will be too embarrassed to admit to such frivolities, and I will be forced to change my act to incorporate consumer tests of different rainforest-free mueslis specially written for the new joke-free zones in our national press.

If readers were utterly honest to these surveys, the print industry would go haywire. My own observations suggest that on trains and buses, up to 98 per cent prefer to read the newspaper bought by the person next to them, even if it is the very same newspaper that they have already bought.

Often, one can spot two strangers, each with his eyes surreptitiously fixed on the other's open pages. One of them then makes a sudden shuffling movement or a cough, and immediately both sets of eyes swing back to their own paper. Ten seconds later, slowly but surely, both sets of eyes drift sideways once again. Sports pages, business news, news from Canada — all sections I traditionally shun — take on a curious fascination if observed over someone else's shoulder at a suitably wonky angle.

I have never known a readership survey to unearth such a glaring truth, however, and, even if it had, it would be hard to know how the newspapers would respond. An advertising campaign urging people to buy the newspaper best suited to the person in the seat next to them could, I suspect, be doomed. Surveyors should know that I

devote much of my newspaper-reading time to scanning the areas untouched by journalists. I start at Forthcoming Marriages, wondering at the suitability of each attachment and generally concluding, on the strength of names, addresses and parentage, that the man sounds as rum as can be and that the poor woman should call it off as fast as she can.

From there, my eyes trip to Appointments, and I spend a great deal of time wondering whether I might possibly be better off becoming Chief Sales Executive for a Major Pharmaceuticals Firm opening up a new office in the Middle East. Then I am beset by worries about whether the climate would suit me, whether I could manage without alcohol, whether I know anything whatsoever about pharmaceuticals, and so on, usually deciding with no little regret that I am probably not fit for staying put.

Much of my reading takes place without a printed page in sight. Who can resist the lure of the small-print Conditions for Entry for the competition on the back of the cereal packet? Who has not scanned a street of shiny dooplates? (I can recommend any back street in Vienna for a particularly long and gripping read.) The most casual of glances at art galleries reveals far more people reading the titles of paintings than looking at the paintings themselves.

Ribald slogans on T-shirts, names and positions occupied on the lapsels of executives as they wander purposefully in the foyers of hotels; the chillingly severe warnings against subletting to be found in the opening seconds of hired videos; signs on roads announcing twin towns and encouraging safe drivers; flashing neon weather reports and apologies for inconvenience at major railway stations; graffiti chalked into the dust of passing lorries; the world is there to be read, and most of it was not written by writers.

I only wish that aeroplane skywriting was as popular in real life as it used to be in children's comics. To read a newspaper in the sky, preferably over someone's shoulder, would indeed be very heaven.

Despite the thaw, Michael Evans sees a continuing need for an airborne early-warning system

Old warhorse still pulling its weight

The crash of a Shackleton early-warning aircraft, and the death of its 10-man crew, seems like an accident in a time warp. One of the RAF's oldest planes, it has an airframe that conjures up images of the Second World War and an obsolete radar system which is incapable of differentiating accurately between a civilian plane and a hostile low-flying jet-fighter.

Yet for as long as I can remember, this RAF stalwart has fulfilled a valuable role in Britain's air defence system, providing airborne early warning of potentially hostile intrusions into British air space. It is a role which from March 1991 will be progressively taken over by the US Awacs which the Government decided to buy for the RAF after scrapping the British Nimrod early-warning aircraft programme in December 1986.

But when the Government finally decides how to reshape Britain's armed forces, following its "options for change" review, will there still be a requirement to

buy seven Awacs to protect our air space from low-flying Soviet fighters and wave-hopping cruise missiles, now that the threat appears to have receded?

Whatever changes are made in force levels in response to the political developments in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, the defence of the United Kingdom's air space will remain a fundamental responsibility of the Government. Furthermore, some capabilities must be protected from cuts in the future, including early-warning systems, intelligence-gathering and reconnaissance. These areas will become increasingly important, for they will provide Britain and the Nato alliance with vital information about any changes in Soviet military intentions over the next few years. The Awacs will need to be seen in this context.

Comparisons between the radar operated by an E-3 Sentry Awacs and the Shackleton show clearly why the RAF has been anxious for a number of years to resolve the airborne early-warning issue. The

Shackleton, using a first-generation radar taken from the old naval Gannets, normally flies up to 200 miles out to sea. The radar has a range of about 100 miles. So if a hostile fighter approached the British coastline at 600 mph, air defence Phantoms would have 30 minutes to mount a counter-attack.

The Government's choice of the American Awacs instead of the British Aerospace/GEC Avionics Nimrod AEW was based on technical reasons. The E-3 Sentry meets or exceeds RAF requirements in all significant areas, and is a major advance beyond the Shackleton in terms of technology. It has an effective radar range of about 250 nautical miles and can track 400 targets simultaneously. Nimrod never looked as if it would meet these requirements. Of 20 flights carried out with

Nimrod during the Ministry of Defence's evaluation of the system, only three were viewed as providing suitable data.

The Nimrod airborne early-warning (AEW) programme,

which began in 1977, cost more than £900 million, and it was thought that a further £60 million was needed to finish the project. The original contract, signed in March 1977, called for Nimrod AEWs to be available for RAF training in May 1982 and for operational service in April 1984. Shackletons continued flying as the AEW issue became a considerable political embarrassment.

But why an airborne system when there are increasingly sophisticated ground-based versions? First, because ground radar stations would be prime targets at the start of a war, and second, because airborne systems provide much longer-range surveillance than most land-based radars, and have the ability to pick up low-flying aircraft and cruise missiles. The exception is the new American over-the-horizon "back-scatter" early-warning radar, the first of which, situated in Maine, on the eastern seaboard of the United States, is due to be formally handed over to the US Air Force in a few months' time.

The long chain of radar antennae which bounce signals off the ionosphere have been designed to detect and track aircraft and cruise missiles flying at any altitude up to 2,000 miles away. The computers are so advanced that they can distinguish genuine targets from all the clutter the signals pick up.

But the over-the-horizon system has taken 20 years to develop and is still not in service. Also, it cannot pick up anything within a range of about 500 miles, because that is the first "skip" distance of the radar signal.

The over-the-horizon system has been developed to detect targets over the sea, whereas Awacs, operating from about 30,000ft, were built primarily to detect targets over land. To satisfy Britain's domestic and Nato commitments, the UK Awacs have been adapted by Boeing for a maritime role. It is clear that an advanced airborne early-warning capability will be required for as long as there is the remotest possibility of a threat to this country.

Sitting down together but such a distance apart

R.W. Johnson considers the extreme pressure on both sides as the ANC and Pretoria start talking about talks

May 2, 1990, is a date which future generations of South African schoolchildren will learn by heart — the day the ANC finally achieved the talks with the South African government which it had been demanding for the previous 70 years.

They will also study with interest the careful arithmetic of the ANC delegation: seven blacks, two whites, one Indian and one coloured. There is a balance of the movement's diplomatic and military wings and also of the older generation of Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu with the rising young stars like Thabo Mbeki. Two members are women.

There are some striking omissions. No room has been found for the most famous of South Africa's troublesome priests, Messrs Tutu, Boesak and Chikane. The United Democratic Front, which led the internal anti-apartheid struggle throughout the 1980s, has minimal representation and, most striking of all, no room has been found for representatives of the Cosatu trade union federation, which has provided the muscle and backbone of black politics.

This may simply mean that the ANC will demand separate representation for Cosatu when full negotiations begin, thus giving itself a second delegation. Others will see in this a sign that the ANC will seek to relegate the unions to a more subordinate position, as Swapo has quickly done in Namibia. It may, however, perhaps be too early to reach such a conclusion — these are just talks about talks, after all.

What the ANC would like out of the talks is a complete government amnesty for all anti-apartheid exiles, guerrillas of Umkhonto we Sizwe, its military wing, and political prisoners. De Klerk has already signalled his willingness to tackle this issue but he will hardly give way quickly. Some of those imprisoned, he will argue, have committed acts so violent or criminal that they cannot be pardoned without undermining the responsibility for torturing them.

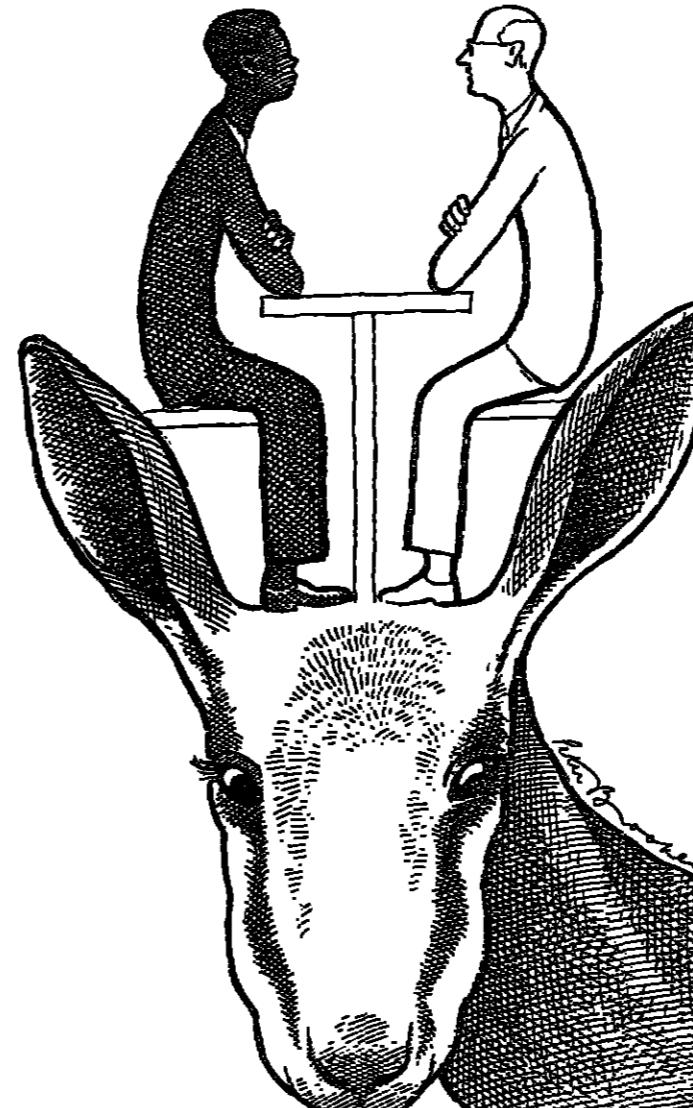
These issues are far too tough

general reservation. His recent declaration that the government would not concede majority rule should be read as meaning: "I have made concession after concession and received nothing in return. The white right-wing parties are getting uncomfortably strong — polls suggest they might win if a white election were held now — and I simply cannot afford to make any further concession unless I receive something in return to brandish at the white electorate to show that negotiation is not just another word for a gradual slither to surrender." In particular, de Klerk will argue that a minimal condition for allowing Umkhonto guerrillas to return is for the ANC formally to abandon its commitment to armed struggle.

The ANC will, in turn, find this hard to concede. Thousands of Umkhonto members are sitting in camps in Tanzania still receiving a political education based on the thoughts of Mao. Such men have suffered greatly, live in conditions of great privation, and are quick to accuse the ANC's political leadership of showing insufficient militancy or even of betraying them. To the ears of such men, abandoning the armed struggle could sound dangerously like saying that their sacrifices have been largely in vain and that there is no future role for them.

The ANC cannot risk such an outcome, nor can it afford the prospect of such men being dumped on the tail of the vast black unemployment queue back in South Africa. At the very least they have to come back to jobs — perhaps within the South African Defence Force. But the image of ex-Umkhonto Private Bhengu, as it were, being whipped into shape by a Sergeant Van der Merwe is not much more credible than the notion of Colonel Bhengu taking command over Sgt Van der Merwe. On top of that, the Umkhonto leader, Joe Modise, who is part of the ANC delegation today, is the man accused by Umkhonto dissidents of being responsible for torturing them.

These issues are far too tough



and complex for there to be any realistic hope that agreement on them will come out of this initial three-day meeting. All else apart, the ANC can hardly be seen to call off the armed struggle so quickly and easily without risking accusations from the Pan-Africanist Congress of a sell-out. Such accusations would have a certain resonance for many township, youth and Cosatu militants who are prone to claim that "the only thing to negotiate is the seizure of power", who insist, in other words, that negotiations must be exactly the slither to white surrender that the white right-wing parties so greatly fear.

Similar difficulties attend the

ANC demand for the lifting of the state of emergency and the removal of troops from the townships. De Klerk is bound to point out that since he lifted the ban on black political activity on February 2, more than 300 blacks have been killed in various forms of civil unrest, of whom fewer than 5 per cent have died as a result of white-on-black violence. De Klerk may well be ready to lift the state of emergency in much of the country but he is bound to cite the situation in Natal as a special case requiring a continuing and strong military presence to avoid further bloodshed.

The ANC's problem is that it has made a military withdrawal a

parade but from lovely Luton, is considering extending the scope of its VIP facilities. The airport boasts a VIP lounge with room for up to 10 dignitaries, but such travellers are few and far between. The change is part of an attempt to try to ensure the lounge is not idle for most of the week, and will mean that for the first time more MPs will qualify for the full VIP treatment — which at Heathrow only ministers receive. John Carlisle, MP for Luton North, is leading the campaign to attract more VIPs, and hopes to persuade the Prime Minister to grace the lounge in the near future. Asked about the plans, Luton Airport's publicity officer, Beverley Allen, expressed herself rather proud of

Swallow and parrot

Providing that a talking green parrot can be found in time, the Swallows and Amazons Society will be launched in June, 60 years after the appearance of Arthur Ransome's children's classic. The ceremony will take place at the Windermere Steamboat Museum at Bowness; present will be the Amazon, the original boat from the stories, and Brigit Saunders, "the ship's baby" from the Altounian family on whom the Swallows were based. Strangely, Ransome's Utopian dream of waterborne childhood is particularly big in Japan. A four-figure contribution to the Amazon restoration fund has been received from the Japanese Ransome appreciation society, which is to send a delegation to the June launch. Only one element is missing. David Carter, chairman of the putative society, is anxious to find a stand-in for Captain Flint's talking green parrot, one of the heroes of the book. Anyone who knows the whereabouts of such a bird — which should have a suitably nautical turn of phrase without being inclined to obscenity — can get in touch with Mr Carter via this column.

Three weeks ago, European Rail Link, the consortium of British Rail, Trafalgar House and BICC which is bidding to build the rail-link to the Channel Tunnel, submitted its plans to the Department of Transport. So sensitive are its proposals for the final leg from Swanley across London to King's Cross that maps were submitted on special paper and drawn with special ink that cannot be photocopied.

Not-so-square mile

The formidable Frances Edmonds, who spent a year observing MPs for the waspish book *Members Only*, is now promising to lift the lid off the City of London. She has been signed up for a no-holds-barred account of life in the Square Mile, but to avoid the attentions of litigious City types who are inclined to shower wits like so much confetti, she insists that the book will be a work of fiction. She does admit, though, that the main characters will be based on real-life personalities. Edmonds, who has just returned from covering the English cricket tour of the West Indies with her husband, former Test player Phil, promises that the mixture of fact and fiction "will raise some eyebrows in the City". To protect the moles supplying her with information, she is guaranteeing total confidentiality.

Chasing rainbows?

That bustling centre of international travel, Luton Airport, much maligned since Lorraine Chase revealed that she had been wasted in not from

the lounge. "It's got carpets and curtains and we had a French diplomat last week. A few months ago we had someone from Neighbours, but I'm not sure who."



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

MAY DAY IN MOSCOW

"Christ is risen, Mikhail Sergeyevich!" An Orthodox priest, bearing a cardboard image of the Saviour, paused yesterday before Lenin's mausoleum to beseech the Soviet President and the entire Politburo with these memorable words. Behind him, demonstrators booted the rostrum in a gesture unthinkable just a year ago. Were they all sounding Mr Gorbachov's death knell? Many who watched May Day in Moscow yesterday must have sensed an era drawing to an unlamented end.

True, the loyal communists who were bussed into Red Square in time-honoured fashion greatly outnumbered the assortment of Liberal Democrats, Constitutional Democrats, Social Democrats, anarcho-syndicalists and Christians who raised their banners in peaceful protest. To Western observers, the future has, throughout Eastern Europe, seemed to belong to this well-disciplined, brave and dedicated opposition. But in Russia so many things are different. The alternative is not necessarily a courteous handover of power to a new élite. Instead, there always looms the hideous violence and wanton impiety of the last scene of *Boris Godunov*, lifting the curtain on the dark forces for ever threatening to martyr Mother Russia when the hand of authority weakens.

Like Boris, Mikhail Gorbachov is a flawed, even a tragic hero. His rule has certainly been a blessing for most of his fellow Russians, though less so for the other Soviet peoples. His role in the liberation of central Europe last year alone is sufficient to guarantee him an honourable place in the history books.

But Mr Gorbachov also shares with Boris an inability to escape the stigma of his illegitimate claim to the throne. Mr Gorbachov's Bolshevik forerunners were usurpers. They murdered their predecessors, exterminated their rivals, and have held on to power ever since by methods which have far exceeded those of the tsars in arbitrary cruelty and mendacious self-gloration. Mr Gorbachov may have curbed the systematic distortion of his party's record in office, but he may have unleashed forces which are already beyond his control.

Much that was once dogma has been carried away, but one rock still towers above the flood: Vladimir Ilyich Lenin. Debunking of this one Soviet communist patriarch is not tolerated

even under Mr Gorbachov. Lenin is still "the greatest thinker of the twentieth century", his claim resting on the "sublime art" of foresight and pragmatic adaptation of Marxist theory to reality. Mr Gorbachov denies that Lenin saw himself as simply the founder of a theoretical system. He sees him, in essence, as an improviser of genius. He knew how to make things happen; his policies worked. This, Mr Gorbachov maintains, legitimizes *perestroika* (a practical, not a theoretical, notion) as an orthodox variant rather than a heresy.

And yet, "Down with the cult of Lenin" said one banner yesterday. The May Day protests suggest that Mr Gorbachov has failed to revive the soul of Soviet society with his minimalist version of what was once a visionary creed. If so, he must know it: why else maintain the greatest apparatus of surveillance in human history if not to receive accurate data about the popular protest? Mr Gorbachov does not live in the cloud-cuckoo land of the Ceausescu, who appear to have been genuinely astonished by their executioners' enthusiasm.

The Soviet Union itself emerged from what was a class war and proclaimed the ideal of communism as a classless society. Mr Gorbachov is clearly turning his back on much of this. "An intellectual of noble birth, Lenin was part of the people," he remarks. Lenin's upper-class background used to be played down, but is no longer a source of shame for Mr Gorbachov — himself a Cossack, once despised as the tsars' most obedient servants. He should accept Mr Vaclav Havel's alternative to the classless ideal, a "civil society".

Mr Gorbachov's Leninism remains imprecise, committed still to a Soviet supremacy over a restless empire, to a planned economy, to internal market pricing which barely deserves the name and which has delivered only shortages, racketeering, crime and misery. He stood on the rostrum yesterday, no longer the beacon of hope for the oppressed peoples of the East, but an increasingly tarnished dictator of one of Leninism's greatest bastions.

Yet May Day should rest with the priest, Mikhail Sergeyevich could at least defy Lenin's banishment of priests to Siberia. He should remove the remaining restrictions on the practice of Christianity and rehabilitate those Christians his creed so sorely oppressed.

LOVE MY DOG

When a new clause to the Environmental Protection Bill was debated in the Commons on Monday advocating a dog registration scheme, the Government imposed a three-line whip to ensure its defeat. The Conservatives no doubt wished to avoid an embarrassing reverse only days before tomorrow's local elections.

It was, for all that, an inept decision. As the debate was in progress, yet another vicious dog attack on a human was recorded. At Dudley, in the West Midlands, a four-year-old girl was set upon by an Alsatian and a Rottweiler. Injuries to her face required 200 stitches. These ever more numerous, and ever fiercer, animals are by far the most dangerous weapons which members of the public are permitted to keep without any sort of control.

Monday's debate could have taken place only in this country, and in a nation reared on tales of Greyfriars Bobby and Thomas Hardy's dog Wesses. Until a year or so ago, the argument would have been mainly about the plight of strays and the fouling of pavements, but the case for increased control has been strengthened by a spate of dog attacks resulting in injury and even death, many of the result of a dramatic rise in the breeding of certain species.

Ten years ago, there were few Rottweilers in Britain; today there are an estimated 180,000 of them. Pit bull terriers are bred specifically for fighting. Earlier on the day that the clause was debated, a pit bull terrier attacked three people in their home at Portsmouth, and was driven off only after a neighbour had tried to prise its jaws open with a garden fork.

Dame Janet Fookes did not come to the Commons with a fully articulated scheme. She argued for acceptance of the principle that all dogs should be registered, that responsibility should rest with the local authority and that

those who failed to register should be fined. The Government was not persuaded that her proposals would meet the "polluter pays" principle which informed the rest of the Bill — the real problem, they contended, was with irresponsible owners who would be the last to comply with registration.

The battle lines were curiously drawn, inside and outside Parliament. Dame Janet's clause had the support of the Police Federation, the National Farmers' Union, the British Veterinary Association and the RSPCA. The Government's main supporter in opposition to registration has been the Kennel Club, which endorsed the Department of the Environment's view that the scheme would be expensive and difficult to enforce.

Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, the hapless junior minister put up to stone wall on the Government's behalf, did what he could with a brief that allowed him to say that he was looking at the possibility of creating a specific offence of allowing a dog to stray. The Government's wish to make local authorities invoke the long-forgotten Control of Dogs Order of 1930 takes us into A. P. Herbert country, except that it is no longer a laughing matter.

The pressure exerted by the jaws of a Rottweiler is of the order of 400 lbs per square inch. They and other dangerous breeds are increasingly owned by people who, in the RSPCA's phrase, use them as unguided missiles. The Government has unwisely set its face against registration. After this week's horrifying incidents, there should be no further doubt. If there is to be no registration and related penalties, then dogs bred for offensive purposes should immediately be brought within the scope of the Dangerous Animals Act of 1976.

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THE HUMAN FACTOR

Nearly one in three pedestrians admit to crossing the road when the lights are against them; one in six fail to look first in each direction. A similar proportion of those who travel by rail open doors and clamber in or out when the train is moving. Nearly half of Britain's drivers speed on motorways.

In 1988, 29 people died falling from moving trains. Five were killed and 761 others injured on entering and alighting at stations. A further 406 were injured opening and closing carriage doors. Of all road deaths involving pedestrians in Britain, nearly half are caused by passengers not looking to right and left when leaving the relative safety of the pavement.

An initial reaction to this basket of statistics, from a survey quoted by the Department of Transport yesterday, is to wonder why they seem so low. Nobody visiting Waterloo Station in the rush hour could fail to observe train doors prematurely opening with the precision of a well-drilled *corps de ballet* as Londoners dive precariously to work. The commuters who dart like swallows across Whitehall... those motorists in the fast lane on a M4... all leave the clear impression of a nation bent like lemmings on self-destruction.

One explanation is that this set of modest figures is based only on those who have confessed to their sins. Only 42 per cent of people questioned agreed, for example, that they "sometimes failed" to read safety cards on aircraft. Only 55 per cent admitted that they never checked the muster points on ferries. Such statistics suggest that far more do offend. The Government is therefore moving in the right direction with its campaign "Safety on the Move", announced by the Transport Secretary, Mr Cecil Parkinson.

An awesome number of these accidents is avoidable. If the Transport Department can persuade more travellers to think the unthinkable, it will make some progress towards its declared goal of reducing by one third the shocking number of road deaths (5,000 last year) before the end of this century. There will always be a limit, however, to the results that can be achieved by publicity and educational campaigns.

Britain's overall road accident record compares well with those of other Western European countries. But the numbers involving children are disturbing and have shown a recent (and so far unexplained) increase. These accounted for 13 per cent of all road casualties last year and 7 per cent of all deaths. This alone reinforces the argument for the Government to consider new legislative measures to back up its new publicity campaign.

These should include tighter speed limits on roads, including motorways, with possibly lower limits for motorcyclists and more severe penalties for those who flout the law. The Government's pusillanimity on random breath tests — part of its general indulgence of alcohol abuse — continues to permit far too much drinking before driving. The wearing of belts in the rear seats of cars should long ago have been made compulsory for adults as well as for children.

There might also be legislation on jaywalking, in city centres if not throughout the country. One in three of all road accidents involve a pedestrian. By no means all of these most vulnerable travellers will heed the advice of a Government campaign. As traffic volumes rise, compulsion must have a part to play. Such measures might be unpopular. So what?

Moral issues on abortion and embryo research

From the Editor of Ethics & Medicine

Sir, The extraordinary decision of the House of Commons to abandon the safeguards provided by the Infant Life (Preservation) Act and permit (some) abortion all the way to term (report, April 25) is profoundly disturbing, must surely have been largely unintended, and cannot be allowed to stand.

It represents a major liberalisation of our abortion law in a direction which has never been debated in Parliament, and which takes us beyond the classic abortion dilemma of the ambiguity of pre-viable foetal life into the deliberate destruction of those who were already considered "capable of being born alive" as long ago as 1929 when the Act was framed. Many people who have no sympathy for the "pro-life" movement will find this deeply disturbing.

For that very reason this entirely unexpected development takes us beyond the area in which it may reasonably be claimed that we are dealing with a matter of private conscience. It is incumbent on the Government to face the public policy questions raised and, at the least, to find a way of testing parliamentary opinion on the central question: do our legislators truly intend the unborn to be destroyed well beyond viability, for any other cause than to save the life of the mother?

The answer may, of course, be "yes"; and — if so — we will have moved from discussion of abortion to that of euthanasia. But unless it is "yes" there must be an opportunity, in the cold light of day, to draw back from so momentous a step in the medicine, law and ethics of our nation. Yours faithfully,

NIGEL M. DE S. CAMERON,

Editor,

Ethics & Medicine,

Rutherford House,

17 Claremont Park,

Edinburgh 6.

From Professor Emeritus Philip Rhodes

Sir, Despite the asserted conviction of the Archbishop of Westminster and others (April 23) that

"fundamental moral criteria are absolute", there is evidence that this is not always so.

Christians and their churches in their time have objected to Galileo's observations on the heliocentric universe, to human anatomical dissection, to Newtonian physics, to the theory of evolution, to anaesthesia for childbirth, and to transplantation operations. For centuries they supported the death penalty. It took time for contraception by the "safe period" to be accepted. Until the last century it was believed that the soul entered the foetus at the time of "quickenings", suggesting that it was not human until this occurred.

On all these subjects Christian moral teachings have changed. And are the fundamental moral criteria absolute for all the other religions of the world too?

Yours sincerely,

PHILIP RHODES,

1 Wakerley Court, Wakerley,

Oakham, Leicestershire.

April 23.

From Ms Alison Davis

Sir, Mary Warnock (article, April 20) posits the existence of some group whose policy "aims to ensure that the numbers of handicapped people, do not diminish".

I am aware of no such group.

Certainly this is not the pro-life

necessity older people, and we very much appreciate the contribution to the work of the House of Lords made by younger hereditary male peers.

It would be a great advantage if we also had the benefit of younger female hereditary peers. Already we are fortunate in that a few Scottish peerages are inherited through the female line. May that soon be widely possible in the rest of Britain.

Yours sincerely,

PLATT OF WRITTLE,

House of Lords.

April 23.

Hereditary peers

From Lady Platt of Writtle, FEng

Sir, Lady Warnock proposes (article, April 20) that one of the advantages of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill might be that noble families could arrange to have a male baby to ensure inheritance. I am very much in favour of the Bill particularly to enable childless couples to have the joy of healthy babies.

May I suggest an easier alternative solution to the inheritance of titles in that it should be possible for women to inherit if there are no sons. Life peers are of

cessions next year, many of us would be sorry if the basic principle was abandoned under the impression that the concessions were less generous than is the case.

Yours faithfully,

JANET TODD (Leader, Conservative Group,

Oxford City Council),

Foxton Lodge, Foxton Close, Oxford.

April 28.

From Mr R. E. H. Bailey

Sir, You report (April 30) that, of those questioned by MORI on the subject of local government finance, 35 per cent would prefer a return to the old rating system.

If rates were revived, how many of that 35 per cent would have to pay them?

Yours etc,

ROBIN E. H. BAILEY,

4 Foxholes Cottages, Foscot, Oxford.

April 30.

From Mr John Spreckley

Sir, Poll tax? Roof tax? Hair tax, surely, is the answer. Such a tax would achieve the totally random and totally unfair effect the drafters of the present legislation narrowly missed, and it would be nicely weighted in favour of pensioners.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN SPRECKLEY,

Benbrook Cottage, Linch, Liphook, Hampshire.

April 23.

Bar subscriptions

From Mr G. J. S. Hill

Sir, For over a year now, the Bar Council has been pressing, or threatening, charges of professional misconduct against a number of barristers (myself included) who have refused to pay a subscription on the grounds (among others) that the rule compelling payment constitutes an unnecessary restraint of trade. Now the Courts and Legal Services Bill proposes (clause 29) that the Bar's rules of conduct will be deemed to have statutory approval.

It will be strange if, as seems possible, the proposed legislation has the effect of validating a restrictive practice or closed shop which might otherwise have been unlawful. I understand that Government policy was quite different.

Yours faithfully,

G. J. S. HILL,

17 Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

April 23.

Invisible man

From Mr P. M. B. Jones

Sir, Your front page today ("Wife's adultery trial shocks liberal America") reports that a woman in Wisconsin is to be tried for committing adultery, but that her "partner in crime" will not be tried due to lack of evidence. Surely her defence must therefore be "with whom?"

Yours faithfully,

P. M. B. JONES,

29 Harrington Road, South Norwood, SE25.

May 1.

War on cancer

From Mr Norman F. Dacey

Sir, May I add a footnote to your report (April 20), "Breast test 'does more harm than good'".

As part of the "war on cancer" begun in the United States in 1970, the American Cancer Society enrolled 300,000 women at 29 breast cancer detection centres and gave them an average of two rads of radiation per examination.

The National Cancer Institute acknowledged uneasily that each such test increased the subject's chance of contracting breast cancer by 1 per cent or more. Mammography is not a perfect science: "misses" are in the order of 10-15 per cent.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
MAY 1: Mr D G P Taylor was received in audience by The Queen upon his appointment as Governor of Monserrate. The Queen held a Council at 12.30pm.

There were present: The Right Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe MP (Lord President), the Right Hon Malcolm Rifkind MP (Secretary of State for Scotland), the Right Hon Peter Walker MP (Secretary of State for Wales) and the Right Hon Norman Lamont MP (Chief Secretary of the Treasury).

Her Majesty pricked the name of Mr Hugh Bernard Meynell as High Sheriff of Shropshire in the room of Mr Denis Pearcey Lennox, deceased.

Mr Geoffrey de Deney was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Right Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe MP had an audience of The Queen before the Council.

The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, this afternoon re-opened The Queen's House at Greenwich for the National Maritime Museum.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received by Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Lewin (Chairman of Trustees National Maritime Museum).

The Queen subsequently embarked in the Port of London Authority Barge "Royal Rose" and proceeded to Westminster Pier.

The Queen's Bargemaster and Watermen were on duty.

Mrs Robert de Pass, Sir Robert Fellowes and Wing Commander David Walker RAF were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the Chartered Society of Designers, attended the Mervyn Dinner, at the Institute of Directors, 116 Pall Mall, London SW1.

Mr Brian McGrath was in attendance.

Mrs Robert de Pass has succeeded the Lady Elton as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess of Wales, as Patron of the International Spina Research Trust, will visit the trust's headquarters, Nicholas House, River Front, Enfield, Middlesex, at 10.40.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Save the Children Fund, will chair the launch of "Prospects for Africa's Children" by the Africa Review Group at IBM South Bank, 76 Upper Ground, SE1, at 11.00, and will open Save and Pros-

Today the Princess Royal visited Cornwall and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Cornwall (The Viscount Falmouth).

In the morning Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, visited the Fund's shop, 6 High Street, St Ives.

Subsequently, The Princess Royal, President, Riding for the Disabled Association, visited the South West Cornwall Group at the Old Mills Stables, Lelant Downs, Hayle.

Afterwards Her Royal Highness opened the new Annex at St Erme House, St Erme, near Truro.

Finally Her Royal Highness, President, the Mission to Seamen, opened the Mission's new Centre at Fowey.

Mrs Richard Carew Pole was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE

MAY 1: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present at the Memorial Service for the Dowager Duchess of Abercorn which was held in the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, today.

KENSINGTON PALACE
MAY 1: The Princess of Wales received Dr Christopher Hahn of the Royal Anthropological Institute, at Kensington Palace.

The Duke of Gloucester, Patron of the London Playing Fields Society, this evening attended the Society's Centenary Dinner at the Savoy Hotel, Strand, London WC2.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

MAY 1: Princess Alexandra, Patron of National Association for Mental Health (MIND), was present at a Reception held this evening for the City Appeal of MIND at the City Livery Club, Victoria Embankment, London EC4.

The Lady Mary Mumford was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

Her new Administration Centre, Romford, Essex, at 1.30.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron of the Girls Public Day School Trust, will open the Junior School Building at St Helen's School, Northwood, Middlesex, at 2.30.

The Duchess of Kent will visit Lorien Laboratories, Sandy, Bedfordshire, at 11.45; and Cynthia Spencer House, Northampton, at 2.15.

Marriage

Mr J.R. Saunders and Miss C.H.M. Seddon
The marriage took place on Saturday, at St Mary's, Barnes, of Mr John Saunders, son of Mr and Mrs Russell Saunders, of East Sheen, and Miss Claire Seddon, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Seddon, of Richmond, Surrey. The Bishop of Coventry officiated, assisted by Canon Jungen Simonson.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Emily and Patrick Johnson, Mariana Adams and Clare and Emma Shapter. Mr James Sawyer was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr J.D. Wallis and Mrs D.N. Parves
The marriage took place on Thursday, April 19, quietly in Wiltshire, of Mr John Wallis and Mrs Di Parves.

Mr T.J. White and Miss J.F. Greenwell
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 28, at St Peter's, Jewellery, Surrey, of Mr Timothy John White, elder son of Mr and Mrs Frances Greenwell, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Greenwell. The Reverend Canon Charles Manchester officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Jana Stevens, Andrea Greenwood and Philippa White. Mr Peter B Spurrier, Portcullis Pursuivant, also spoke.

Dinners

Chartered Society of Designers
The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the Chartered Society of Designers, was the guest of honour and principal speaker at the sixtieth anniversary Mervyn dinner held last night at the Institute of Directors. Mr Rodney Fitch, president, and Mrs Fitch received the guests.

London Playing Fields Society
The Duke of Gloucester, Patron of the London Playing Fields Society, was received by Field Marshal Lord Bramall, Lord Lieutenant of Greater London and president of the society, at the centenary dinner held last night at the Savoy Hotel. Mr Peter Nathan, chairman, presented and received the guests with Mrs Nathan. The other speakers were the Duke of Gloucester, the Hon Colin Moynihan, Minister for Sport, and Mr Glynn Bradshaw, Chairman of the National Playing Fields Association. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster were among others present.

Painter-Stainers' Company
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriff, attended the annual Banquet dinner of the Painter-Stainers' Company held last night at Painter's Hall. The High Commissioner for Barbados was the principal guest. Mr Montague W D Northcote, Master, presided, assisted by Mr Carl Fisher, Upper Warden, and Mr Kenneth R Woodford, Renter Warden, and Mr Peter B Spurrier, Portcullis Pursuivant, also spoke.

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SCIENCE REPORT

Muddy foundations made Oakland freeway collapse

THE collapse of part of Interstate 880 in Oakland, California, was one of the more tragic sides to the Loma Prieta earthquake that rocked the San Francisco Bay area on October 17 last year. American research now reveals why.

At the time that foundations based on loose underlying soil rather than hard rock might explain why some road sections collapsed when others did not.

The double-deck section of the Nimitz Freeway runs from south to north along the Oakland shore of the bay, until it meets the MacArthur Freeway which goes from east to west into San Francisco, across the Bay Bridge.

The northern part of the section — along which the upper deck crashed on to the lower — is built on estuarine mud, 10,000 years. The section that remained intact is of almost identical structure but is built on stiffer, older ice Age alluvium.

The researchers used sensitive digital seismic detectors to show how the estuarine mud amplifies earthquake shocks far more than the ice Age alluvial sediments — enough to bring down the elevated section of the freeway.

Motorists on the doomed section of the freeway were more unlucky still, because the estuarine mud just hap-

OBITUARIES

ANTOINE VITEZ

Antoine Vitez, director of the Comédie Française, died on April 30 from a brain haemorrhage, aged 59. He was born in Paris on December 20, 1930.

THE son of an Hungarian photographer and self-proclaimed anarchist and his Normandy wife, Antoine Vitez was considered to be one of the most intellectual actors-directors of his day. He, however, always denied the tag, claiming that he was merely "a simple peasant".

Despite this rebuttal Vitez was an accomplished linguist. His mastery of Russian enabled him to translate Sholokov, Chekhov and Bulgakov. He also made a version of Sophocles' *Electra*. It was his unforgettable production of this work in 1971 at the Amandiers-Nantette that established him as a director of exceptional perception.

A family man — his wife is the Belgian actress Agnes Van Molder, and his two daughters, Marie and Jeanne, are mannequins — he preferred that his life remained that way. He was also reluctant to talk about his hard "but honourable" childhood. Seen as a prude, he nevertheless raised no objection when Faust, he was required to appear nude on stage.

At one point he was secretary to the communist writer Louis Aragon and he joined the French Communist Party when he was 27. He remained a member until 1980 when he resigned in protest at the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

During the 1960s and 1970s, Vitez travelled the length and breadth of Europe acting and directing with different companies. He began to put down roots when, from 1972 until 1974, he was artistic director under Jack Lang (currently French Minister of Culture) of the Théâtre National de Chaillot. He returned as its artistic director in 1981 until in June, 1988, he was appointed to head the Comédie Française, following



the sudden death of Jean Le Poultain.

Vitez's austere Marxist tinted cerebralty concealed a frank humour, and he was a talented, if acerbic, impersonator. Self-effacing he said he had no decorative taste. "What taste I have I save for the theatre."

He claimed to be musically "ignorant", yet he was capable of directing with panache such operas as *Le nozze di Figaro* in Florence (1979), which marked one of Riccardo Mutti's earliest excursions into Mozart on stage. Vitez's view

of *Figaro* was a severe one, but he handled his young (and principally Anglo-American) cast with skill. In 1984 there was a sombre *Macbeth* for the Paris Opéra in which the debris of war at the side of the stage was piled high by the designer Yannis Kokkos.

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The following year, Vitez again stole the Avignon Festival's limelight with his brilliant production of Lars Cleberg's *Apprentice Sorcerers*, which he directed as well as playing the role of Stanislavsky. This was an apt piece of self-casting for Vitez was a pupil of Tamia Balachova, who nurtured his natural tendency towards the Stanislavskian method. He was something of a guru and his love of teaching found an outlet as the Director of Studies of the Theatre of Nations University in 1965, as a teacher at the Jacques Lecoq Mime School (1966-70), and as a Professor of the Conservatoire National Supérieur d'Art Dramatique (1968-81).

The final production by Vitez opened only month ago: Brecht's *Galileo*. This was only the second time Brecht had been seen at the Comédie Française and it was both a labour of love and a demonstration of Vitez's determination to extend the twentieth century repertoire.

In the coming weeks, Vitez was to have announced La Comédie's 1990-91 Season, the first by which his influence could truly be judged. Only the most intimate of his friends were aware of the sadness with which he left the Chaillot to take up the reins of La Comédie at a time when it was grumbling with internal unrest.

His appointment, and that of gitz showman Jerome Savary as his successor at the Chaillot, was seen by many as putting Karl and Groucho Marx at the head of two of France's most important national companies. Vitez's idealism however proved to be that of an *homme de théâtre*, of remarkable imagination, integrity, and a crystalline honesty.

Brigadier Francis Ramsay St Pierre Bunbury, CB, DSO and Bar, defender of The Hook, in Korea, in 1953, died aged 79 on April 28, 1990. He was born on June 16, 1910.

ing in combat experience. A Chinese deserter who had come into the Dukes' hands told Bunbury that an attack in strength, which outnumbered the British by five to one, was scheduled for May 20.

His information about the Chinese units to be involved was unusually detailed, and Bunbury was inclined to suspicion. But much else about the deserter was plausible and Bunbury eventually accepted his story. Putting his troops on the alert, he issued the directive to fight to the last man and the last round.

True to the deserter's assertions, a massive artillery bombardment opened on the Dukes' positions on the night of May 20, 4,500 shells falling before dawn on May 21. For the next seven days shells and mortar bombs killed men in their bunkers, wrecked trenches and shattered platoon command posts. It would have been an ordeal for the most battle-hardened troops, and Bunbury was at times fearfully worried. But his men held firm in spite of the steady stream of casualties which depleted their ranks.

On the evening of May 28 the bombardment lifted and what is known as the fourth Battle of The Hook began in earnest. It was a night of fierce hand to hand fighting which decided the possession of The Hook for the rest of the war. To some, the presence of the enemy in person was almost a relief from the impersonal horrors of shelling and mortaring. Men rose from the trenches where they had crouched, numb, for the previous week, and there was a series of bloody encounters which ranged from grenade throwing range to a few feet. But the Hook was a bleak horseshoe-shaped eminence which lay to the west of the Samchon River, dominated both the surrounding countryside and the minds of the combatants. Both sides wanted it, and fought over it with unexampled ferocity, reducing it to a morass of mud and putrefying flesh.

The 7th US Marines had stormed it and entrenched themselves, only to be blasted off again by Chinese shell-fire and napalm in October 1952. They had gone back, supported by artillery and aircraft and retaken it, later handing it over to the 1st Black Watch, who had deepened the American trench system and were able to repel all Chinese attacks through a wise tactical policy of "defence in depth".

When the Dukes, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Bunbury, relieved them early in May 1953, it was in an atmosphere heavy with the threat of impending attack. Chinese loudspeakers around The Hook told the defenders that their previous attacks had merely been a "patrol action" and promised ferocious retribution to the defenders.

Like many of the British battalions, the Dukes were National Servicemen, but they had the additional disadvantage of having come to Korea from inactive garrison duty in Germany. Nevertheless Bunbury and his officers and NCOs worked wonders with them in training and by the time they took over The Hook they were at least insured to hardship from training and patrols, though naturally lack-

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Home-grown learning: Thomas (left) and William Rust testing soil with Jo, their mother and teacher — "they probably argue back more than they would with a schoolteacher"

Home is where the school is

If there is any drawback in home education it is probably, thinks William Rust, aged 14, the lack of opportunity for schoolboy mischief. "You can't mess about," he says. "There's no one to hide behind."

Such a disadvantage, however, has to be weighed against the attractions of following a morning's interesting work in agreeable surroundings with a pizza lunch and the latest episode of *Neighbours*: personal and social development, says the teacher in Jo Rust; half an hour's peace, says the mother in her.

Mrs Rust, aged 38, who has been educating her children herself for four years, can afford such relaxed views, given the opinion of many experts that two hours' personal tuition is worth six in school. According to Dr Roland Meighan, senior lecturer in education at Birmingham University and author of the book *Flexischooling* (published by Education Now), such efficiency is often the most striking aspect of the situation.

"If you talk to the children about what is different, their first answer is how much time you save once you cut out the boring assemblies, the long playtimes, the breaks that occurred just when you were getting interested in something. They may have learnt as much by lunchtime at home as they would in two days in class," he says.

Dr Meighan has been studying the alternative approach to education for 12 years now. When he first became interested he could locate only about a dozen families engaged in home tuition; now he reckons there are at least 5,000,

involving maybe 15,000 children. In America, he says, the figure is thought to have topped a million.

"I think the major motivation is desperation. Most of these families are not ideologically anti-school. They go along with the system until their child gets into trouble, either through something like bullying or through performing poorly. So they have a go at doing it themselves and they are astonished to find it has a lot to command it."

These parents are acting within their legal rights: only education is compulsory in this country, not schooling. The 1944 Education Act says parents have a statutory duty to see that their children receive education suitable to their age, ability and aptitude and any special needs, either by sending them to school or "otherwise".

Education Otherwise, a self-help group which took its name from this clause, was founded 13 years ago to support and advise parents who wanted to exercise their choice and to help them in their dealings with local education authorities. It now has 2,000 members.

The Rusts made their decision after moving from London to Gamlingay, a village near Cambridge, where Graham Rust, aged 39, is creative director of an advertising agency. The approach of formal education for Thomas, their youngest son, coincided with a growing conviction that William was finding his studies increasingly dull. At the same time Mrs Rust, a qualified youth leader, was working in a club for teenagers. "I was seeing all these youngsters whose only ambition was to leave school. It all

Why are more parents giving their children a DIY education?

Liz Gill reports

seemed so depressing, we thought we'd have a try at doing it ourselves."

For the Lyon family in Bradford, home teaching seemed part of a natural continuum. "We're not negative about schools, nor did we think we had particular qualities which would enable us to do it better," says David Lyon, aged 41, a sociology lecturer. "All we felt was that we'd been the main source of their educational stimulus until they were five, and we couldn't see the point of stopping there."

Sue Lyon, also 41, is a qualified maths teacher, but she regards that as immaterial. She has worked out her own system over the 10 years that she has been educating her four children, aged from six to 15, at home.

"I rarely stand there and act the teacher. We do have a special room, but it tends to be used more as a resource centre. The children are more likely to take their books from there and bring them into the kitchen, I might answer questions as I'm making a meal. Our view is that all life is educational."

The children's work is frequently project-oriented. "We also try to hitch ourselves to their interests," Mr Lyon says. "At the moment they're very keen on producing a newspaper, so you can use that to

teach anything from word processing to prose style."

Mrs Rust pursues a similarly flexible approach. "I tend to teach retrospectively, in that I look back at what we've been doing one week and, if I think we've spent a long time on one particular subject, we'll catch up on something else the next."

For both the Rusts and the Lyons the most tangible measure of their methods will come next year, when the elder children take their GCSEs.

The likelihood, Dr Meighan says, is that they will do at least as well as ordinary pupils — "and sometimes such children do astonishingly better".

Other benefits are less tangible.

Mrs Rust believes her sons have had a more stable education, and that they have developed more self-motivation and concentration. For both families classroom discipline tends to be indistinguishable from family discipline, although Mrs Rust adds: "They probably argue back more with me than they would a schoolteacher, and say they've got better ideas. The trouble is they're often right."

The costs of home education are hard to calculate. Mrs Rust says they are high in the sense that she would otherwise have returned to paid employment. Mrs Lyon, on the other hand, who would not, says an awful lot of material is free via libraries, museums, galleries, television and radio.

The big argument against the home method has always been that the children are socially disadvantaged by not constantly mixing with their peer groups. The

Rusts and Lyons say this is nonsense — all their children have a wide circle of friends and a variety of leisure activities. Dr Meighan argues: "Our vision of school social life is that it is rather wonderful, when in reality it is far more likely to be about avoiding the bully, keeping a low profile and conforming. Families who have one child in and one out of the system say it is the social competence of the ones at school they are worried about. The other can handle anyone from a pensioner to a pensioner." Most DIY educators go to some lengths to ensure their children do not miss out on group activities like sport, music, drama and special outings.

From time to time both the Rusts and the Lyons offer their children the chance to return to the system. So far there have been no takers. "I think they balk at the idea that it has to be all day, every day," Mrs Lyon says.

It may be that in future the lines will not be so clearly drawn. One small independent institution, the Dame Catherine School in Ticknall, Derbyshire, has six pupils among its 38 boys and girls who are primarily home-educated but come in part-time. Philip Toogood, the head, says: "If I have any criticism of home education, it is that the children never have to belong to a group they have not chosen, and so they may not learn that business of give and take." He says: "Self-development is important as long as you don't think that 'me' is all that matters."

• *Education Otherwise is at 25 Cromwell Lane, Hemingford Abbots, Cambridgeshire (0480 63730)*

Breaking point and the boss

Executives are being urged to take more leave — but who wants to exchange the office for a 14-day family fight?

If you are a senior manager, you need a holiday. In fact, it ought to be compulsory; a survey by *Personnel Today* has concluded that whereas junior staff show no unwillingness to slope off as often as possible, eight out of 10 bosses are not taking their full holiday entitlement.

They conclude, is a bad thing, and British firms ought to consider following some companies in the United States by writing it into executive contracts that they must go away for at least two weeks in the year.

In a time of plummeting sales growth and exorbitant loan rates, it seems, the rats are getting ever more unwilling to stop racing round in their treadmills.

Caution should be exercised before blaming this entirely on the present jittery mood of commerce. There have always been those who find it almost impossible to go on holiday because it entails a tacit admission that they are dispensable. Bosses leave directions of Byzantine complexity to cover every possible development, and telephone

daily from the Algarve to the disgust of their families, secretaries and PA's refuse to go away for a week without leaving a "will" dealing with everything from the computer to the watering schedule for the pot-plants and the boss's girlfriend's nickname.

It is possible to carry an entire year's disasters inside a laptop computer

He gets to the beach, after a further humiliating loss of control and direction because the resort is so exotic, new and prestigious that the room service maid speaks in English. Immediately, he becomes aware that his family is not behaving like loyal and well-motivated staff members.

Daddy, poor devil, has been working such long hours away from home that he has forgotten what it is to give a crisp directive and have it met with indifference, derision, or a suggestion that he go and get his own ice-cream. By the time he has learned to wind down, to smile, to play beach-cricket and meet setbacks with a shrug and a happy *mariana*, his fortnight is up and it is time to go back to the office in a dangerously relaxed and vulnerable state, stripped of his protective working carriage. There must be a solution somewhere. Perhaps companies should insist that the full three weeks be taken at once, or revive the wakes weeks when the entire firm closes down. If this is impractical, they should steer executives away from the hideous stresses of foreign sun, and encourage them to go youth-hostelling alone.

Mary Lancaster

three of them pearlized, and they have just come into the shops at £5.25.

Beauty lips

Why choose between lip protection and lip colour in the summer — or smear one on the other — when you can have both in one stick? RoC, the skin protection specialist, has introduced RoC Treatment Lipstick, a fragrance-free, hypo-allergenic formula including Vitamin E and ultra-violet filters in a glossy, moisturizing film. There are 10 shades to choose from.

Sous culottes

Don't get your petticoats in a twist under culottes — try the new divided slips now available from all Marks & Spencer branches for £6.99. A more expensive one in the Gardena range costs £12.99 from selected larger stores, and new variations on the theme are planned for the autumn.

Victoria McKee

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11

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

Slowdown creates a sudden slump

Industrial land values are falling fast, according to a recent survey

The survey shows that between 1977 and 1989 the price of industrial land increased on average by 17.8 per cent per annum compound, while average rental growth on industrial property was 11.9 per cent per annum compound.

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Land prices peaked in September 1989, says John Organ, of Healey & Baker, and since then industrial land prices have fallen by between 10 and 20 per cent. "This is due to the impact of high interest and a re-adjustment of the investment yields available to institutions, reflecting their perception of a slowdown in rental growth. Business-use sites have probably dropped by between 20 per cent and 30 per cent, depending on location, for similar reasons and due to the slowdown in the take-up rate of out-of-town office space."

Mr Organ said that strong demand for industrial sites remained, but the drop in business-unit site values meant that there was a better chance of acquiring sites for "shed" developments. "There still remains a shortage of new

industrial and warehouse buildings, particularly in the South-east, and we anticipate continuing rental growth from this area."

The survey shows that land classified as standard industrial land in 1977 but which has since been developed for either B1 mixed use or retail use has seen substantial increases in value. Land used for food retailing has increased in value by 35 per cent per annum compound since 1977, compared with 17.8 per cent for standard industrial land, 21.9 per cent for B1 and 28.5 per cent for non-food retailing.

Where high-visibility sites can attract consent for development other than industrial, higher prices are available. Developers are prepared to pay 1.5 times more for land to be developed for B1 use, 2.8 times more for non-food retailing sites and five times higher for food supermarket sites.

The West Midlands experienced the largest increase, 176

per cent, in industrial land values in the year to November 1989. Healey & Baker say this was mainly the result of sites being purchased at current prices in a market which had seen little activity since the early 1980s. The Southwest saw a growth in land values of 88 per cent and the South-east of 28 per cent.

East Anglia had the highest growth in industrial land values over the past 12 years, with a compound growth rate of 20.4 per cent per annum, followed by the West Midlands (20.2 per cent) and the South-west (19.5 per cent).

Healey & Baker expect values to stabilize over the next year in line with the economic slowdown. In 1989 the vacancy rate increased for the first time since 1983, and this is likely to continue as more supply reaches the market, reducing rental growth.

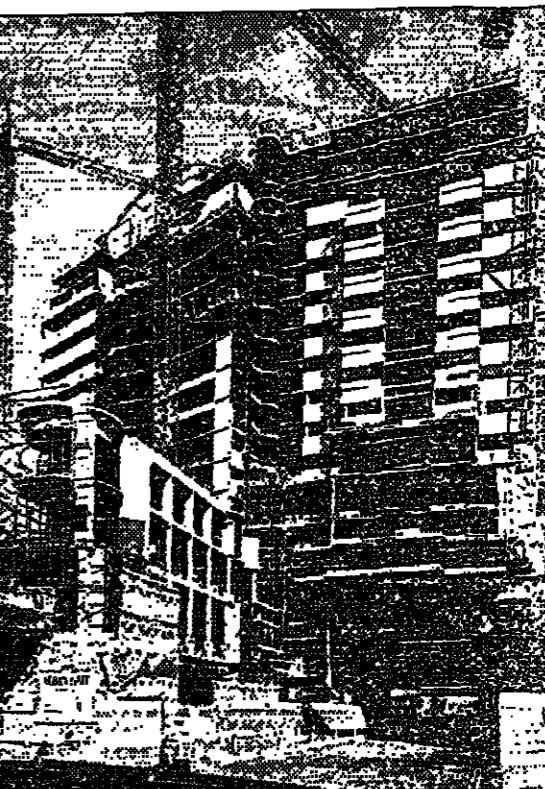
The supply of industrial buildings will adjust as investment decreases due to high interest rates and slow growth, but the supply of mixed-use and B1 buildings is less responsive to economic change because of the longer "lead-in" time for development.

However, Mr Organ says: "We anticipate the schemes which were started in the boom will be adequate to meet the demand in 1990."



Alban Gate, MEPC's development at London Wall, London EC2, right, was topped out last week and is due for completion in spring 1991. Above is a model set in a montage of the existing city landscape. The development, for which Mowlem Management Ltd is responsible for the

£115 million management contract, was designed by Terry Farrell & Company in consultation with Ove Arup & Partners. It consists of 400,000 sq ft of offices, on 18 floors, grouped around two atria. James Tuckey, managing director of MEPC, said the brief to Terry Farrell was to design a



landmark building. "As the form now begins to emerge it is clear that Terry Farrell has responded to the brief with urban flair and architectural innovation." Joint letting agents Baker Harris Saunders and Jones Lang Wootton are quoting a rent of about £45 a sq ft.

■ Burghley House, on the corner of Tavistock Street in Covent Garden, London WC2, is an impressive Victorian building which has been refurbished by Rowlinson Developments to provide 4,425 sq ft of air-conditioned office accommodation.

The building, with roof terrace views over the piazza, is for sale freehold or on a 25-year lease. The agents, Crossland

million complex at Barnwood Fields. The complex will provide 103,000 sq ft of offices on a five-acre site, and the first phase is due to begin in July,

taking a year to complete. Gloucester-based Bruton Knowles and Chesterton of Bristol are the joint agents for the scheme at Barnwood Fields, a major business park in north Gloucestershire.

■ Whitehorse Court, on Westminster Bridge Road, Waterloo, London SE1, an area with good communications, is the latest office scheme by Haussmann Ling Developments. The development provides 8,465 sq ft on four floors and is designed to provide maximum flexibility suitable for single or multiple occupation.

The price offered is £2.75 million freehold or £27.50 a sq ft leasehold through Farrar Stead & Glyn and Anthony Lipton.

Old style for modern offices

BRIEFING

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Can drivers clean up their act in time?

Cecil Parkinson's vision of a motorists' self-help campaign against the greenhouse effect was received with mixed feelings by conservationists yesterday. The Secretary of State for Transport predicted at a conference on Monday that substantial cuts in carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from vehicles could not be achieved in Britain in the next 20 years, but he suggested that drivers could achieve fuel savings of up to 10 per cent by changing their driving habits.

"The effect of this kind of action is real, but limited," says Tessa Robertson, of the World Wide Fund for Nature, which organized the conference in London. "People can do a lot by changing the way they drive, but I do not think the full benefits can be gained without tax incentives to encourage better practice."

This week's hot weather highlights the urgency of the issue: ozone levels in London rose above the World Health Organization's recommended safety levels for the first time this year.

Several groups have chosen this month to launch campaigns to raise awareness of traffic pollution. The

As ozone levels hit a high, George Hill looks at ways to cut pollution

National Society for Clean Air today starts a 24-hour "Fume Line" (0836 405 100), which the public can phone if they see vehicles emitting excessive fumes. In Nottingham, the local Friends of the Earth and Transport 2000 groups are promoting what they claim will be the first "car-free day" in a British city tomorrow. "I do not think we will see a noticeable reduction in cars coming into the town," says Lisa Kerslake, of Nottinghamshire FOE. "Our aim is to make people aware of the problem."

Mary Blake, of Friends of the Earth, says: "The first thing needed to help you drive more cleanly is to choose the car with the lowest possible fuel consumption. Do not overdrive it, or create unnecessary wind resistance by carrying a roof rack unless you need it. Then drive smoothly and avoid aggressive driving. There is evidence that using radial rather than cross-ply tyres can

bring a fuel saving of 6 to 8 per cent."

The motoring organizations offer broadly similar advice. Clive White, a press officer with the Automobile Association, says: "If a car is driven sensibly, it is possible to make quite considerable savings in fuel use and emissions."

The AA is uncertain about Mr Parkinson's call for better engine tuning, however, and points out that most modern cars have complex systems to control fuel efficiency, which are quite reliable so long as the owner follows the manufacturer's servicing schedules. But it points out that it can be worth checking that older vehicles are still doing as many miles to the gallon as they should.

Sir Colin Buchanan, the former adviser to the Government on traffic planning, agrees that there would be gains if drivers could be taught to drive less assertively. "I would go further than Mr Parkinson," he says. "I think we ought to have a complete overhaul of our shoddy driver-training system."

Research by the WWF suggests that if road users simply observed the existing 70 mph speed limit, fuel consumption would be cut by as much as 2.4 per cent.



Uneasy rider: a London cyclist does an anti-pollution miles

THE SEARCH FOR ALTERNATIVE POWER

Lotus, the maker of high-performance cars, seems the least likely company to design a car using the same technology which fuels a milk float. Yet it is testing a £42,500 Esprit sports car which could run at 160mph on both petrol and battery power.

The keenest debate among car manufacturers is no longer about how to extract noxious gases from exhaust fumes; this can now be achieved by the catalytic converter, which will be compulsory on all new petrol-fuelled cars within two years. The problem is how to replace, or make better use of, the fuels which emit carbon dioxide, the gas blamed for contributing to global warming, particularly since the Transport Department calculates that traffic will more than double by early in the next century.

Car makers warn that petrol and diesel fuel will still be in use in the year 2000 despite a huge investment in battery technology and clean fuels such as methanol.

Doubts still prevail over the viability of methanol and whether it is better than petrol as a fuel source, although Mercedes-Benz is develop-

ing a model which can alternate between the two fuels at the turn of a switch.

The efficient use of electricity to power cars still eludes manufacturers, who cannot discover how to lengthen the life of the unwieldy and heavy batteries needed. General Motors, the world's biggest car maker, is, however, planning an all-electric car, called the Impact, capable of 130 miles to a charge yet with performance similar to that of conventional saloon cars. Power will come from 32 lead-acid batteries stacked in the centre of the car.

Two of Europe's biggest manufacturers, Peugeot and Fiat, will have battery-powered cars on sale in the next few weeks - both versions of existing petrol-driven models, and claiming up to 100 miles travelling from one overnight charge of batteries.

Given that the average car journey in Britain is about 10 miles, battery power could provide an immediate solution for the environmentally aware commuter. However, the demand for high performance will remain, so travellers will still be faced with the problem of

making high speeds over long distances - something the battery car cannot yet provide.

That leaves two main options in the short term: diesel and "hybrid" cars using a mix of two fuels.

Volkswagen-Audi says diesel is a good option, despite its reputation for smoky and smelly emissions. The latest diesel engines can achieve fuel savings of 30 per cent over petrol, and harmful emissions are much less.

However, the "hybrid" car may be the one which emerges as "the people's choice" in the next few years. Many of the major manufacturers, such as BMW, Audi, VW, and now Lotus, have developed models powered by both batteries and petrol.

A computer sensor under the bonnet decides which fuel is best. On long, high-speed runs in open country, a petrol engine, equipped with a catalytic converter, powers the car, but in towns a battery-driven engine takes over. The petrol engine recharges the batteries, which can also use the mains.

Kevin Eason

Los Angeles today: gas-guzzlers jamming the freeways. Result: a pall hanging over the city that makes the air the dirtiest in America.

Los Angeles in the year 2000: electric cars running along underground cables, millions of lorries running on cleaner-burning fuels, petrol stations selling methanol. Result: clear blue skies.

This, at least, is the vision of clean-air campaigners laid out in a plan drawn up by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, which by 2007 would improve visibility in downtown Los Angeles from the present 16 miles to more than 75 miles. By 1998 it aims to have 40 per cent of cars and 70 per cent of lorries and buses running on clean fuels. And by 2008, it wants car makers to produce only vehicles that run on electricity and other alternatives.

The visionary scheme has already begun to take shape. Local officials recently announced plans to build an experimental 1,000ft "powered roadway" for electric cars, which could recharge their batteries from a cable running under the road. And

the California Rapid Transit District has started to take delivery of a fleet of methanol-fuelled buses.

Car makers and oil companies have taken some well-publicized steps to clean up their image. Last September Arco, the largest oil company on the West Coast, started to market a reformulated petrol called EC-1 to replace leaded petrol used by pre-1975 cars, which lack catalytic converters. Arco claims EC-1 reduces the emission of pollutants by 20 per cent. Both Arco and Chevron have also equipped some service stations with methanol.

Unocal Corp, the Los Angeles-based energy conglomerate, recently went one better by offering to pay \$700 each for the first 7,000 pre-1971 cars driven into a local junkyard to be turned into scrap; it also offered owners who turned in their gas-guzzlers a one-month bus pass. But more traditional methods may eventually help Los Angeles control the scourge of exhaust fumes. Later this year, citizens will vote on whether to double the state's tax on petrol.

James Bone

Tradition dawns in Oxford

After only two years, the alternative May Morning looks like becoming a fixture

May Day, of all traditional festivals, has had shocking liberties taken with it. Turned into a prosaic Bank Holiday, it was moved to May 7 for the convenience of business, derided by right-wing MPs as a satanic communist festival, the sweet old festival of spring has had a hard time. Even in one of its last bastions, Oxford, there are signs of rot setting in.

What should happen - and does, up to a point - is that the choir of Magdalene climb their high tower above the river and, at the stroke of 6am, sing a hymn. Then flowered undergraduates and Morris-dancers crowd the streets until breakfast time, and the Oxford summer has officially arrived. However, by last year the street festival had become so meaningless, racket, drunken and polluted by blaring amplified rock music that a group of disgruntled Oxonians, led by the sculptor Michael Black, set up a rival May Morning ceremony. He commanded the tiny, arched Aristotle Bridge over the canal, a mile from the heaving crowds, and was heaved through the dancers and on to the bridge beneath the slightly swaying canvas tower. It sloshed, slightly, and when expert hands manipulated a tap in its plaster pizzle, it was revealed as holding 18 gallons of best bitter.

"What is this?" asked a lone French tourist. "I am staying in this hotel. I go to May morning, a man tell me there is a better May morning up here, so I come." She took a photograph. "The ox," a Danish woman said judiciously. "I don't think that has any particular May Day significance, has it?" "Laden with it, madam! Laden with it!" boomed the sculptor, appearing beneath its pendulous undercarriage. "There is no point making special arrangements to attend this alternative traditionalist May Morning next year. Black refuses to be committed. It may even change bridges, and reappear somewhere else entirely. Traditions don't always decay or fossilize. Sometimes they are born, too."

Libby Purves

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund has been at the forefront in much work that has led to a number of equally critical advances. Without doubt lives have been saved and certain cancers that at one time seemed incurable, aren't. However, there is still much to be done.

As for the future...

It's our belief that it's now a question of when cancer is cured, not if. But all our work is funded by voluntary contributions, and could not carry on without them.

In fact, of every pound volunteered over ninety pence goes directly to research. This allows the Fund to continue to employ a body of over one thousand top scientists, doctors and technicians in some of the most up-to-date research establishments and hospitals, throughout the country.

So you see that when you give to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund you're not simply giving to charity.

You're giving hope.

For there's no organisation more likely than us to prove, once and for all, what is already the truth for many: there is life after cancer.

Please send me further information on the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, and how I can help. Send to: Imperial Cancer Research Fund, PO Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX.

I enclose a donation for £_____

For credit card donations dial 100 and ask for Freefone Cancer.

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____

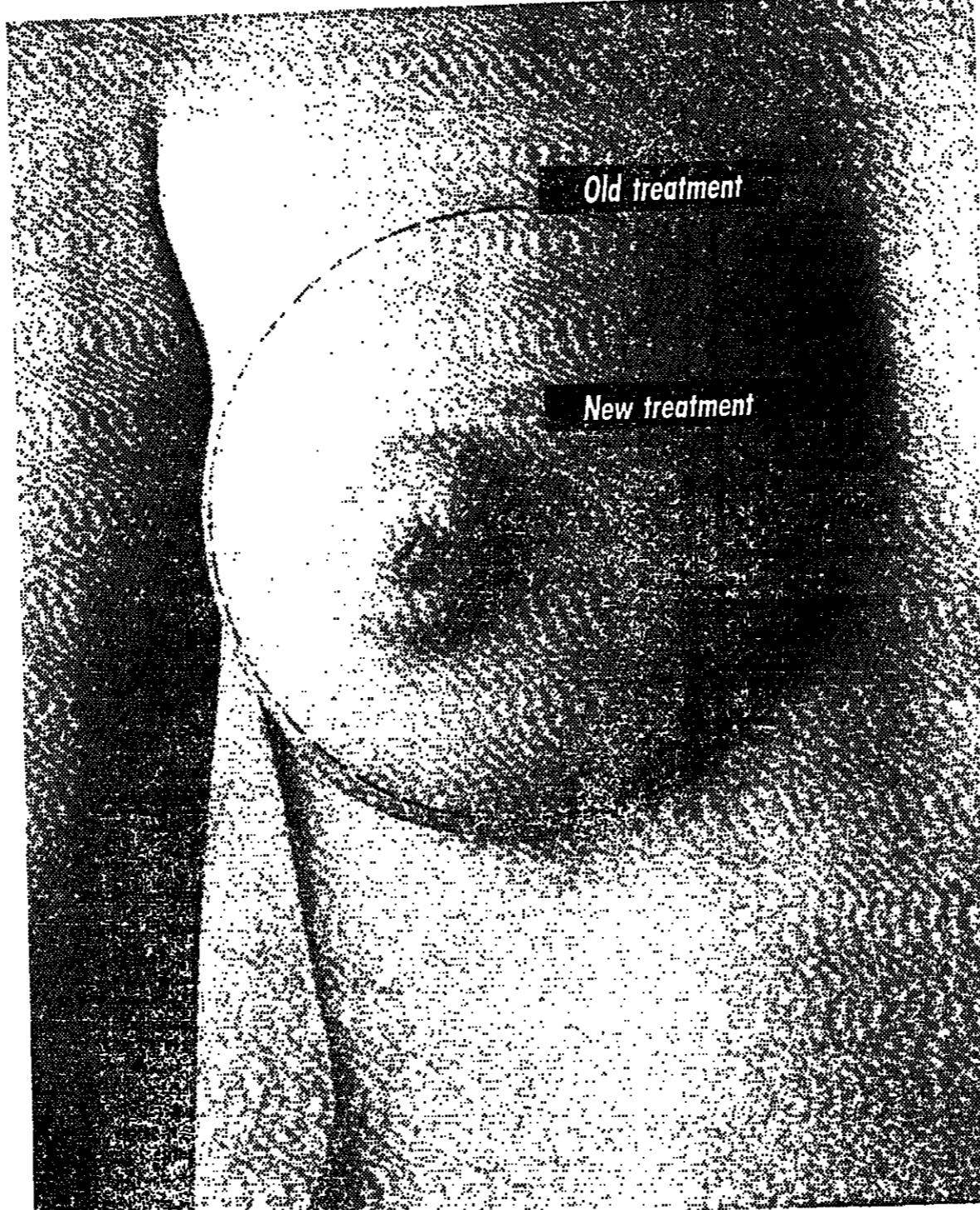
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TIB 02/06

 Imperial Cancer Research Fund

Thanks to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, not every woman with breast cancer has to live without a breast.



MEDIA

A place for the independents

As the Broadcasting Bill returns to the Commons, independent producers still hope to consolidate further their position. The Bill gives independents 25 per cent access to most television production. What the producers now argue about is the terms of this trade. In particular, can they be guaranteed sizeable rights in ongoing programme exploitation? Not for the first time, the model is the American one.

In the United States, financial interests still severely restrict the extent to which networks may take a position in after-sales. As a consequence, it is argued, there is a thriving secondary market. Without such a market, rapid deployment of additional satellite and cable services might have been thwarted. So, should not such a system be applied to us, now that we find ourselves with acres of airtime?

The lobbying by the independents is persistent and understandable. What is harder to understand is the studied silence of the broadcasting networks, not only on this particular point but over the position of the independents in general. The BBC once promised explicitly a careful analysis of comparative costs and comparative quality so that a

rational and open debate could take place. Apparently the data is hard for analysis to handle. So no report, and no debate.

There are two points on which broadcast networks should seek to offer clarity. First, do independent quotas do much damage to economies of scale? ITV's economies were of course frequently vitiated by *louche* industrial practice, but the BBC's operational efficiencies were rightly proclaimed by Michael Checkland in earlier managerial days as unrivalled in the developed television world. Is that still the case?

Then, as we edge towards the 25 per cent target, what do broadcasters say about consistency of quality? Clearly the sheer expansion of broadcast hours has led everywhere to a boom in inexpensive programming, what Paul Bonner of the ITVA calls paperback TV as against hardback. But in the hardback areas of higher-cost shows, where expectations are greater, what does the record show? And, in particular, how far is any freshness that independents offer offset by waywardness?

One school of contemporary argument says that this last point no longer matters. The rules for independent access specifically exempt News and

Current Affairs in their daily manifestations. So the editorial heartland would seem secure. The proffered analogy is with the Press. A paper may parade an idiosyncratic swirl of commentators and columnists, but provided the newsflow and the leader page remain under the editor's firm control then the soul of the enterprise is judged not to be at risk.

The analogy, like most analogies with press/broadcasting, is unhelpful. Broadcast networks serve a broader purpose than newspapers. Their commitment both to entertain and to enlighten looms larger. So, when we think of broadcasting's heartland, we think, too, of Granada's range of fiction, of LWT's arts, of the BBC's natural history, its serials, its comedy (often, if not always), and (massively these spring weekends) its sport. How far may these operations, and scores of others that could be substituted, lose colour once a quarter of the workload is borne by others?

One should concede in passing that the outgoing system is a fairly flexible affair. Especially in the world of fiction, actors, directors, writers, come and go, back and forth across channel divides to wherever the work seems most challenging and attractive, and always have. To that extent the freelance world and the independent world are kissing cousins, and there is perhaps minor significance in change.

But in major companies, crucially underpinning these transient talents has lain steady and skilled craft support, from cameramen and recordists, from editors and dubbing specialists, from designers, costumiers and make-up. Whenever a British programme has bounded round the world to growing applause, it has been their work alongside that of the better-known stars, that has been singled out for praise. Under the new conditions, is such work in significant jeopardy?

Craftsmen may nowadays be following producers so willingly into independence that the end result is bound to be a loose-limbed casualized industry, come what may. And it may be that consequent worries about training, about consistency, about sustained style, are simply old-hat in the multi-channel conditions of the 1990s. But any broadcasters who still assert that quality is a higher good than quotas had better leave coyness behind and spell out the implications now, before the writing on the wall becomes the wording in the Bill.

BROADCAST

Brian Wenham

Hazards of health warnings

Will red tape strangle the humorous, snappy radio commercial?

Richard Evans reports

Sir Humphrey Appleby and his fellow mandarins in Whitehall would be delighted with the Consumer Credit (Advertising) Regulations Nationwide Anglia does not share their enthusiasm.

Britain's second largest building society, which helped pioneer humorous and effective radio commercials promoting products ranging from mortgages to savings and investment schemes, is seriously considering dropping the £2 million spent annually on radio advertising. And can you blame Nationwide?

Snappy 30-second advertisements face being reduced to boring gobbledegook thanks to the men from the ministry – in this case the Department of Trade and Industry.

The new regulations, which came into force in February, mean a typical Nationwide Anglia radio commercial must include a disclaimer, read out on air, that says:

"Mortgages (or loans) subject to status, valuation, security and sometimes to a suitable life or mortgage guarantee policy. Written quotations available from Nationwide Anglia Building Society, Chesterfield House, Bloomsbury, WC1A 2JL."

"Your home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage or other loan secured on it."

Reading that out takes between 13 and 15 seconds. Any message aimed at consumers is likely to be rendered ineffective by a disclaimer giving the impression that everything is not as it should be. One commercial radio station has already lost £10,000 worth of building society advertising and expects to lose £100,000 in revenue over the next year.

The consumer credit disclaimer is only the latest example of a "health warning" which Whitehall or Brussels says must be included in television, radio and press advertisements – and many more are in the pipeline.

The Advertising Association has identified a host of industries and services where the EC is threatening the "freedom to advertise", including tobacco, food, pharmaceuticals, alcohol, cars and financial services.

Brian West, the director of the Association of Independent Radio Contractors, says: "People in government here or in Europe seem hell-bent on legislating a lot of advertising out of existence. It is not a question of removing what might be misleading claims, which has been the way of regulating advertising in the past. They are giving us a form of words



which must be included in an advert, come hell or high water. Overall it is a worrying situation.

With the consumer credit regulations you are having to add words, which means you have to cut other things out or add to the length of the advert, which will cost more. The disclaimer numbs the effect of the advert and turns off listeners. We have suggested a shorter form of words to the DTI, but they have said no."

Although health warnings first appeared for tobacco products long ago, the regulation of advertisements has tended to concentrate on what should be excluded – such as misleading claims – rather than what should be included. But over the past two years advertisements for goods, ranging from pesticides to children's toys, weight-loss products and telephone

equipment, have had to carry warnings. The Financial Services Act contains reams of instructions on what must appear in advertisements.

Many of the obligatory inserts are the result of lobbying by consumer and pressure groups. But taken together, do they help or hinder consumers?

"Each health warning has perfectly legitimate objectives and fulfils real or perceived consumer protection needs. But taken altogether, they do the reverse and reduce consumer choice," said one senior official from the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which vets commercials on ITV and Channel 4.

The Incorporated Society of British Advertisers plans a campaign against the plethora of health warnings and disclaimers. Ken Miles, the ISBA director, said:

"What we object to is a tendency for people to say 'This is how you must put it'. That is a very negative line of thought. It doesn't work for consumers and it won't help companies to get across the positive element of their products."

"We are mobilizing the views of companies on all the restrictions and the desire to censure what they have to say about themselves and their products."

Mr Miles does not criticise groups lobbying on behalf of consumers, but says the danger emerges when there is little or no discussion on remedies to problems.

"What we are trying to put forward is the view that if an over-simple remedy is applied, that will often not work and have a long-term damaging effect, which the pressure groups do not want."

Assistant Home News Editor

BBC News & Current Affairs (Television)

Could you run the demanding Home News Desk for BBC Television News, and organise the coverage of a major news story and make sure it gets "On Air"? If your answer is "yes", and you have sound news judgement, initiative, the ability to work under pressure, and a lively interest in major Domestic news issues, then you could be the right person to join the BBC's Home News team.

The Assistant Home News Editor is responsible for organising television coverage of the day's Domestic news stories, and for co-ordinating the deployment of Correspondents and Reporters. You will be responsible to the Home News Editor and Deputy Home News Editor for the smooth running of the Home Desk, and for liaising with Programme Editors, and the BBC's Regional Television newsrooms.

You will be expected to use your own initiative on breaking news stories and to provide your own original ideas for coverage and news items. You will also be expected to take charge of co-ordinating complex news events in the field. There will be some periods of overnight working on rotas for *Broadcast News* and occasional requirements to act as Assistant Foreign News Editor.

Salary: £19,729 - £25,012 p.a. (or £22,689 - £28,822 p.a. on contract) plus an allowance of £1,212 p.a. Based Television Centre, West London.

Contact us immediately for application form (quote ref. 8987/T and enclose s.a.e.) BBC Corporate Recruitment Services, London W1A 1AA. Tel: 01-927 5799 (071 after May 6th).

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The Centre is a large community-based organisation that provides training and employment opportunities for local adults who are considered to be at most disadvantage in the labour market.

The Centre is currently funded by Camden Council, the European Social Fund and the Training Agency. Additionally it receives support from the private sector.

The principle objectives of the post are to support and provide organisational back-up to the Centre Manager in the development and implementation of a marketing and fund-raising strategy to secure the long-term financial security of the company. The post holder will report to the Centre Manager and liaise closely with the Fund-raising sub-committee of the Board of Directors.

The essential requirements of candidates are broadly:

- an understanding of and commitment to the voluntary sector;
- private sector experience;
- previous fund-raising experience;
- marketing and PR experience;
- excellent administrative, organisational and communication skills;
- self motivation.

The Centre is a limited company and a registered charity. The post is likely to be offered on a one-year fixed-term contract in the first instance. Salary within the range £17,118 to £21,354, hours negotiable.

For further information please ring Ian Roe on 01-492 2103 or write to Camden Training Centre, 57 Pratt Street, London NW1 0DP.

GTC is an equal opportunities employer.

Closing date for applications: May 21.

PRESS OFFICER

A creative, enthusiastic and self motivated person, with good journalistic and PR skills, is required for this prestigious permanent position.

A minimum of one year's relevant experience preferable.

Salary negotiable plus company benefits and expenses.

Please apply in writing to:

Lara Friedland, 31 Maddox Street, London W1R 9LD or telephone: 01-495 8787

DRAKE OVERLOAD

Recruitment Consultants

Due to Drake International's expansion - we are presently looking to recruit dynamic individuals to join our Drake Overload team in London.

The successful candidate will have excellent inter-personal skills and presentation, the ability to liaise at all levels and cope under pressure, and be over 23 yrs of age. Drake offers full and on-going training, an exc package and career prospects within a Co that is an int market leader.

Please call Rachael Scott on 01-834 0388

PRODUCTION EDITOR

Literate, organised and thrive on pressure? Magazine and catalogue publisher based in London Bridge needs another production editor to keep the copy flowing.

You will be working on a number of different projects, covering a wide variety of subjects, so a flexible mind capable of writing, heads and subbing copy on everything from computers to biology is essential. A background in publishing with some understanding of the print process is also desirable.

Write, enclosing cv to Liz Sengupta, MSM International, Themes House, 18 Park Street, London SE1 1ER. Telephone 071-378 7131

SALES PERSON NEEDED

For Advertising Company, covering the London area. Salary + high commission. Must have good communication skills.

Experience not necessary as training will be provided.

Please contact: Yan on 0908 677258.

Tues 22nd May. Basic Studio Operation

Send A4 size S.A.E. to:

Alternative Travel Group Tours Personnel (T),

1-3 George Street, Oxford OX1 2AZ.

CSV People for People

1 DAY TASTER MEDIA WORKSHOP

Tues 8th May

Basic Studio Operation

Tues 22nd May.

Contact Fiona Keith

on: 01-278 6601

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Join elite operations team in well-established up-market travel company.

Are you energetic, enthusiastic, physically fit, over 21? Do you have a good social manner, enjoy food and wine, history, art, architecture, flowers and walking across country? Can you cook, drive, map-read and speak Italian, French, Spanish or Portuguese? All expenses plus £70-£925 per week, 6-10 weeks per annum.

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People aged 25-55 with drive and determination

are required to market financial services,

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Maxwell's European campaign

The first issue of *The European* appears next week. Charles Wintour spoke to its Editor in Chief about his plans

Robert Maxwell, looking several inches wider round the waist since we last talked some three years ago, had just finished being interviewed by Emma Freud for *The Media Show*. Now it was my turn. "How much space is Peter Jenkins giving you?", he enquired, momentarily giving the distinguished columnist of *The Independent* unexpected influence over the media pages of *The Times*.

But when we started talking about the prospects for *The European*, the publication he is launching on May 11, he had all the arguments virtually word-perfect. He conceived the idea 10 years - no, 22 years ago, in the first Dubcek era. "It is right that *The European* should be launched in the year when Dubcek is re-elected as president of the Czechoslovak Federated Parliament."

I said the dummy looked quite good. "Good?" he said. "It is brilliant!" He explained that the colour was even better than "Mirror colour" or anything "Rupert" would produce, because the paper had pioneered the use of Scitex equipment. Normally each colour picture in a newspaper needed three different colour separations involving much time and money, together with some loss of definition. With Scitex it was "all done in one pass, with no loss of definition... It's a very major point. Everyone, whether they like the paper or not, will have to say that it's the best-looking on the block."

So where was the company based that had made this remarkable advance? "Israel," he replied, "and you are talking to the chairman." He beamed, and reflected, "I



MICHAEL POWELL

bought two companies there and have made \$100 million in six months."

And how far did Europe stretch for *The European*? "To Vladivostok!" he replied expansively. We were sitting in his 10th floor living room in the London Maxwell House; there were four marble columns by the doors, two large bronze urns, three large very comfortable sofas, a chaise-longue, two square bronze glass-topped coffers, two round tables, plenty of chairs, a smallish bronze elephant and plenty of flowers, stylishly arranged. It was impossible not to feel a little expansive in such surroundings. Then he added: "From the Urals to Bordeaux, from Istanbul to Leningrad, from Cyprus to..." After a pause, I suggested Iceland. "Yes, Iceland that will do. I didn't know you were a geographer."

The sale of 225,000, guaranteed to advertisers for the first six months, is regarded as modest. "Our research shows that there are 50 million English speakers in Europe," he said. "Demand will be far higher than anyone has given us credit." The initial print run will be a million plus and "indications are" that it will continue at that level for a month. Yet some critics had "concentrated on rubbishing it because it is a Maxwell publication and the bearded (or did he say 'weirded') Left love nothing better than that."

He is particularly irked, however, by the widely mooted suggestion that, because the *London Daily News* folded after only five months, prospects for *The European* are clouded. "The editorial was excellent," Mr Maxwell blames the printing and distribution arrangements

All the same, £10 million is being spent on promotion during the launch and following year. Although Mr Maxwell figures in the promotional video, issued to advertisers, he is not this time appearing in the television

Maxwell's and his European mirror: "Everyone, whether they like the paper or not, will have to say that it's the best-looking on the block" campaign, devised by Young & Rubicam. "It was never even discussed," he assured me. Financial break-even is budgeted for Year Three, but Mr Maxwell would not be surprised if it came at the end of Year One.

What about the editorial? The paper's fact sheet states: "The European will support all those in favour of European Unity and oppose all those who are against. *The European* will be independent and free of party politics."

Doesn't that suggest the paper will be anti-Thatcher? Mr Maxwell explained that Mrs Thatcher has rendered three great services to Britain. She has taught the trade union barons that economic laws apply to them as much as to the rest of the country. She has defeated Labour in three successive General Elections and thus compelled the party to shed all its useless ideological baggage, and become a modern, electable, social democratic party. And, until inflation returned, she had restored some pride in being

British. "However, on Europe she has got it wrong. If she won't change, then her party will disown her or Denis Thatcher will ask her to give up and retire, or she may decide for herself. But this paper will be scrupulously careful not to mix up party politics with our stance on Europe. At the next General Election, we will leave our readers to decide for themselves."

Mr Maxwell had two further thoughts: "I think if you talk to No 10 you will find they are satisfied

Mr Maxwell had two further thoughts: "I think if you talk to No 10 you will find they are satisfied that communism has failed irretrievably and the cold war is at an end. Pluralism and democracy, free markets and capitalism, are on the march. I am excited by the opportunities in Europe. That is why I passionately believe in the need for this newspaper. We will make all national newspapers give more space to Europe. We have to give more space to Europe because what's going on there is so exciting."

And who will be reading it? "The opinion-formers, the movers and shakers." It is was once to Lord Hartwell,

The BBC sweeps the board

A bouquet makes a change from the brickbats

BBC Radio, the underrated jewel in the corporation crown, surpassed itself this week. The four stations managed to scoop 27 of the 33 Sony Radio Awards - a remarkable achievement by any standards (Richard Evans, *Media Editor*, writes).

Some Conservative MPs never miss a chance to have a swipe at Auntie, whether for supposed "bias" on Radio 4's *Today* programme or for an "anti-Government" slant in a documentary.

However certain BBC governors and senior managers are that *Today* and similar challenging programmes amount to first-rate journalism, a nagging doubt begins to enter even the most resolute minds following the drip-drip of political criticism.

It must, therefore, have been especially pleasing for BBC executives to have seen *Today* win the best daily news award, and share the prize for the best response to a news event for its handling of the Romanian revolution.

Jenny Abramsky, the editor of news and current affairs at BBC radio, said: "We are very proud of our success. The *Today* programme has received some brickbats, but this is a further endorsement from an independent organization of the programme's quality and integrity."

Other awards for BBC radio's current affairs coverage went to the BBC reporter James Miles for his coverage of the demonstrations in Tiananmen Square last year. Radio 4 also won the award for the best documentary feature for its report "The Indissoluble Union - Cotton, Chemicals and Corruption".

Today's evening counterpart, *The World Tonight*, won the award for the best current affairs programme; the *Face the Facts* series was a joint winner of the outstanding service to the community award; and the channel's *Health Show* won the prize for the best education programme.

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6.00 Ceefax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Laurie Mayer and Fiona Foster 8.55 Regional news and weather
9.00 News and weather followed by Open Air. Jayne Irving takes calls from viewers commenting on yesterday's television
9.20 Gloria Live... Gloria Hunniford hosts her own live magazine show. Her guests includes a colour therapist and two doctors with opposing views on vaccination
10.00 News and weather followed by Matchpoint (r)
10.25 Children's BBC introduced by Simon Parkin begins with Playdays (r)
10.50 Bumper 10.55 Five to Eleven. Pauline Routledge with more readings from Julian of Norwich
11.00 News and weather followed by Open Air. Eamonn Holmes and Jayne Irving discuss viewers' calls about asthma and hay fever. For advice on the complaints telephone 061 814 0424
12.00 News and weather followed by Daytime Live. Today's edition includes the first in a mini-series on European cooking 12.55 Regional news and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) 1.50 Matchpoint. Quiz game presented by Angela Rippon
2.15 Knight Landing. Dire spin-off from the Dales saga
3.05 Gardeners' Direct Line. Viewers' gardening queries are dealt with by experts John Threlfall, Peter Seabrook and Tom Leigh 3.35 The Pink Panther Show (r)

BBC 2

6.45 Open University: Geology — Ore Genesis 7.10 Culture and Belief in Europe 1450-1600
8.00 News
8.15 Westminster. Yesterday's proceedings in Parliament
8.00 The Violin Makers. Jim McKillop, a maker of violins, in conversation with Stephane Grappelli (r)
9.05 Daytime on Two technology in everyday activities 9.35 A guide to emergency first aid. (Ceefax) 9.45 A-level German 10.05 For the very young 10.20 How the English countryside is changing 10.40 Information technology in everyday life 11.00 Learning to read series 11.15 How ideas are formulated by talking to other people 11.30 Teaching four to seven-year-olds 12.10 A-level biology — cells 12.30 A 21-year-old man talks about money and values 12.55 Effective communication. (Ceefax) 1.20 Pie in the Sky 1.40 Putting together a Photofit
2.00 News and weather followed by Storytime
2.15 Racing from Ascot. Julian Wilson introduces five coverage of the Insulap Sagar EBF Stakes (2.30), the White Rose Stakes (3.05), and the Insulap Victoria Cup (3.40). The commentators are Peter O'Sullivan and Jimmy Lindley. Include News and weather at 2.50 and 3.55
4.05 Junior Darts. Action from the British Youth Darts Championship which has now reached the quarter-final stage. Introduced by Tony Gubba from the Lakeside Country Club, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex 4.20 Don't Get Between the Devil and His Dog. (Ceefax) 4.30 The National Pet Show 4.45 Comedy from the Lakeside Country Club, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex 5.00 Don't Get Between the Devil and His Dog. (Ceefax) 5.15 Double Darts 5.30 The National Pet Show 5.45 Comedy from the Lakeside Country Club, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex 5.55 Double Darts 6.00 Don't Get Between the Devil and His Dog. 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Customs quiz steel firm men over Iraqi gun

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

CUSTOMS officers investigating the Iraqi super gun affair yesterday questioned 18 members of the two engineering companies in Birmingham and Shefford.

Last night Customs said: "A number of people have been interviewed and some have been arrested. None has been charged." It would not comment on who had been questioned. Three of the people interviewed are understood to have been formally arrested and released to return for fresh questioning.

According to Customs sources eight of the people interviewed yesterday were from Sheffield Forgemasters and the others were from Walter Somers, in Halesowen, near Birmingham. Walter Somers said last night Customs officers visited the factory and left with three top executives identified as Mr Peter Mitchell, the managing director; Mr Ken Hadley, the commercial director; and Mr Taylor, the works manager.

Sheffield Forgemasters said: "Six executives in group companies have been asked to make statements at local police stations which they are doing." Neither company was able to comment on whether other members of staff had also been seen by Customs officers during visits to the two works in an operation now being run by a team of investigators from Birmingham.

Last week Dr Christopher Cowley, a scientist, was charged with an export offence linked to the gun. Sheffield Forgemasters made the eight steel cylinders seized by Customs officers at Teesside last month. A week before the seizure Iraq attempted to place a fresh

order with the Birmingham company for what the company thinks may have been an arming device. The order was refused.

Miss Maureen Lawrence, the British Consul, saw Mr Ashwell on Saturday.

In the Commons yesterday MPs from all sides joined in demands for an immediate ministerial statement about developments in the Iraq gun affair.

Sir Hal Miller (Bromsgrove, C) said that he had been told that Mr Peter Mitchell, of Walter Somers, among others, had been arrested. Until the intervention of his wife he had not been allowed access to a solicitor.

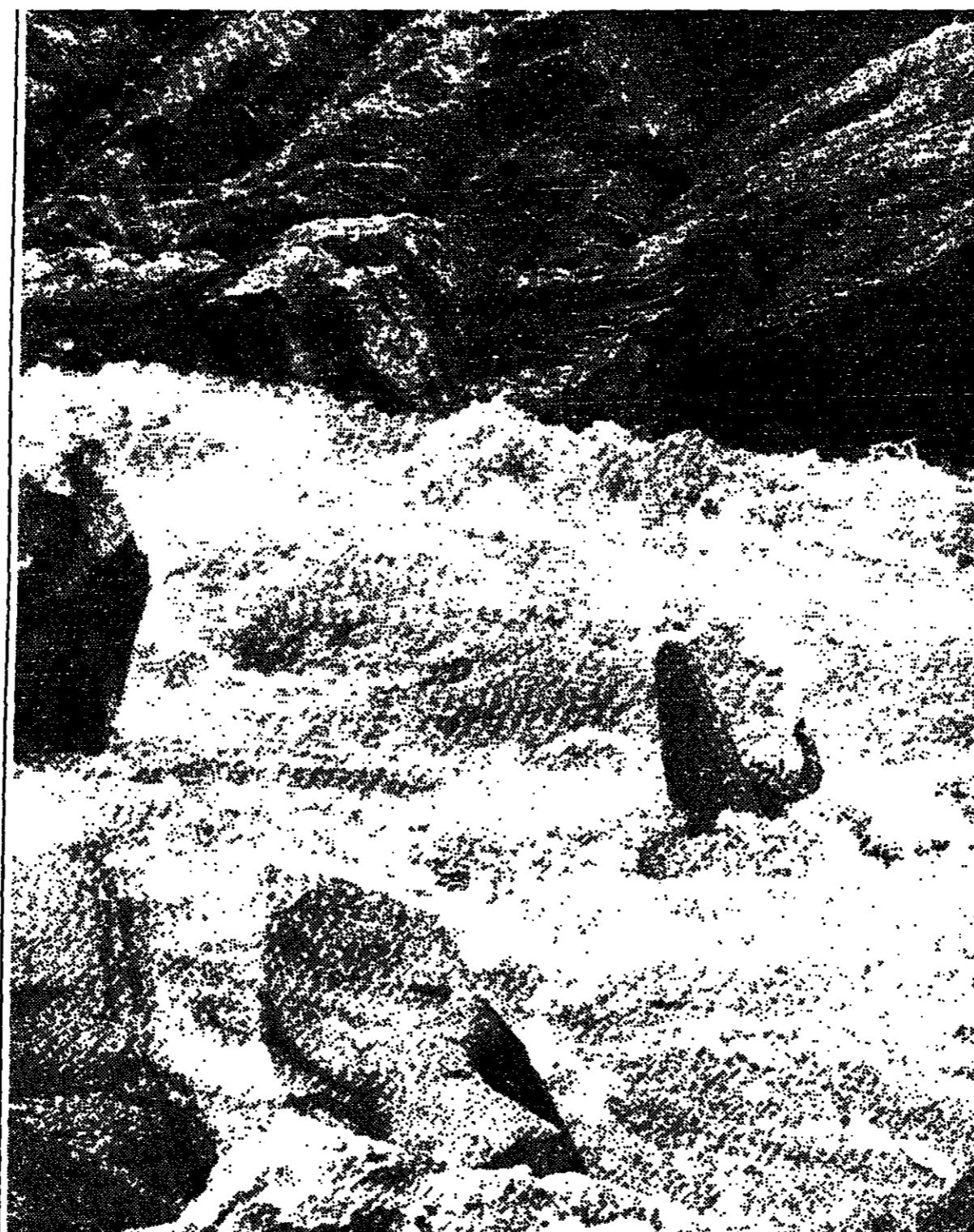
As yet there was no charge and the matter was not *sub judice* and could be discussed.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selly Oak, C) said these people should not be allowed to become scapegoats for others' inefficiency.

• Britain is to make a second attempt today to persuade Greece that Paul Ashwell, the Northampton lorry driver arrested in connection with the Iraqi gun, is an innocent victim (Andrew McEwen writes).

Mr Ashwell, aged 26, is still in prison at the Greek port of Patras, where his lorry was intercepted by Greek Customs who found what appeared to be parts of the alleged gun.

Mr David Miers, the British Ambassador, will go to the Greek Ministry of Justice today to raise his case. Mrs Margaret Thatcher took it up with Mr Constantine Mitotakis, the Prime Minister, at the Dublin summit on Saturday but so far the Greek authorities have not made their position clear.



THE Indus proved equal to its reputation when a British expedition tested the waters before embarking on an attempt at the first successful navigation of the river (writes Lin Jenkins). Within minutes of testing the stretches above Skardu in northern Pakistan, Mr Mick Hopkinson, an experienced canoeist, was in trouble (above).

Mr John Taylor, expedition leader, said: "He hit a big hole, a stopper wave, which is the dread of all canoeists. It grabbed his kayak and held it, playing

with him as a cat would with a mouse. His kayak was tossed around end over end with Mick fighting for air in between capizes."

Whether through luck or experience, he survived, and will be joining the team in the descent through the spectacular torrent stage, swelled by melting snow, astir Indus thunders down gorges through the "Roof of the World" where the Himalayan, Karakoram and Hindu Kush mountain ranges meet.

"Most deaths on big river expeditions

have occurred in the early days before the necessary build-up of confidence and honing of skills. A natural fear of the power of a big river has to be overcome by each person to allow them to master the river," said Mr Taylor.

The expedition called "The Taming of the Lion", after the Buddhist legend that the river flowed from the mouth of a lion, has been practising on the quietest stretches before beginning its 100-mile descent down one of the toughest stretches of water in the world.



Pier Giorgio Frassati, in paper hat, at a party with friends before his death in 1925

Pope sets youth 'example'

Continued from page 1

modern young man," says his niece, Signora Wanda Gabwonka. "Someone who enjoyed life to the fullest but never forgot it was a gift from God." She points out that the Pope has encouraged Frassati's beatification party because he is a man today's youth can identify with. "He loved women, sport, drink and, above all, freedom."

But he also developed at an early age a lasting belief in the importance of spiritual values. In 1918, he joined the Society of Saint Vincent, providing for the sick and caring for orphans and demobilized

servicemen. In 1922 he was already playing a layman's role in the Third Dominican Order, engaging in frequent theological reunions.

Frassati was totally committed to his religion. "I believe the day of my death will be the happiest day of my life," he wrote to a friend some years before a week's illness struck him down in 1925 with an acute attack of polio from which he never recovered.

His funeral in Turin, to the astonishment of his parents, was attended by hundreds who had only known him through his good works as "Girolomo," the name he had

assumed on entering the Third Dominican Order. Beggars paid tribute to the handsome young man alongside the flowerers of Turin society.

Following the miraculous cure of several hopeless patients who prayed to Frassati after his death, the process of beatification was begun in 1932. After this month's beatification, a miracle is required before eventual canonization. Those who knew Pier Giorgio have no doubt that such a miracle will soon come and that the Pope's favourite generation — youth — will have a real example of a young man who "lived in our era."

To fly from blossom to blossom,
The honey bee must be free.
But blossom must not ever fly

From bee, to bee, to bee!

Over on the Labour side,
two by-election victors had burst into flower. Sylvia Heal

Matthew Parris

Baker rebuke to Tebbit

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

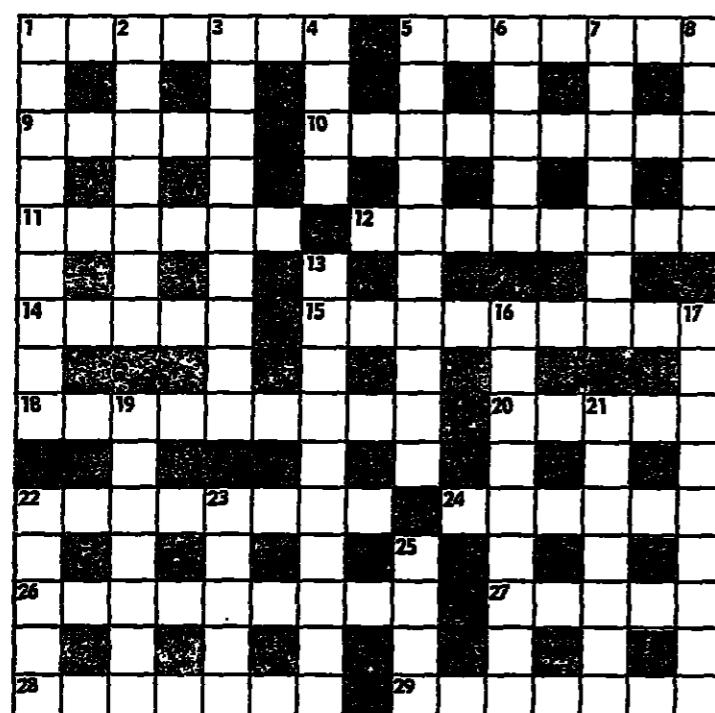
MR KENNETH Baker, chairman of the Conservative Party, last night delivered a firm rebuke to Mr Norman Tebbit over his controversial remarks on the loyalty of a proportion of Britain's Asian community.

Speaking at the dinner of the Barnet Anglo-Asian Con-

servative Association in London, he praised the contribution Asians had made to British life.

He attacked racial intolerance and insisted that Conservatives did not want the Asian community to subordinate its culture and identity to the British way of life.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,283



ACROSS

1 Enjoyment of foreign land (7).
5 Journalist saying "I can be cutting" (4-3).
9 Shrink half the cotton (5).
10 3 in America taking a ride (3-6).
11 In truth, I left some property (6).
12 Gets help? That's denied (8).
14 Bird starts to get rather exhausted by egg-laying (5).
15 This, my lad, can afford great relief (9).
18 People of high standing, such as Leonardo da Vinci (3-6).
20 Monster seen about, riding horseback (5).
22 Light gold (3-3).
24 Name about to turn sour (6).
26 Amongst others, king caught in Italian revolution (3-4).

Solution: Puzzle No 18,282

27 I put on a little weight — it's the bracing air (5).
28 Woodcutter worries about wood at first (7).
29 Come into it after getting a lot of stick (7).
30 DOWNS
1 Total — two blues (9).
2 Descent of rope taking time (7).
3 Big support reported for the stars (5-4).
4 Test this Australian can of beer (4).
5 Hard — dinghy's moved here out of the water (4-3).
6 While talking, invent a new word for a wedge (5).
7 Singers giving bribe to a queen (7).
8 Field right in the middle of open country (5).
13 Very detailed curse placed upon love-child (4-2).
16 Still foot into tumbledown shack (9).
17 It's kept by unmarried American girls under 18 (4,5).
19 Colourless, centre to pattern that's colourful (7).
21 In the fresh air to do our exercises (7).
22 Fill in short (5).
23 Generate passion aboard ship (5).
25 Dress a Shakespearian servant up (4).

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

NUZZER

a. To give sack
b. A bribe to a superior
c. An Indian bandit

FOIN

a. Clover hay
b. An Irish pecuniary penalty
c. To stab

PLACIDO

a. £10
b. Mediterranean halcyon days
c. A barking shark

PANDOOR

a. A generous giver
b. A large fat oyster
c. A revolving door

Test this Australian can of beer (4).

Answers on page 22

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, dial 0835 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs) 1-751

M-ways/roads M1-M4 1-752

M-ways/roads M1-M27 1-753

M-ways/roads M23-M4 1-755

M25 London Orbital only 1-756

National traffic and roadworks

737

West Country 1-738

Midlands 1-739

North 1-740

East Anglia 1-741

North-West England 1-742

North-east England 1-743

Scotland 1-744

Northern Ireland 1-745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

Concise crossword, page 22

WEATHER

Isles. Most parts of Britain are expected to have another dry sunny and very warm day. Any early morning fog patches will clear quickly. The North Sea coast will be at risk from fog or low cloud rolling in. Any areas affected by sea fog or low cloud will be noticeably cooler than elsewhere. Outlook: Mainly dry, sunny and very warm but eastern districts may be cloudy.

ABROAD

Scorborough 13.8 6.4 7.8 sunny
Hastings 12.5 6.6 7.9 sunny
Cardiff 13.5 6.6 7.9 sunny
Clacton 13.6 6.6 7.9 sunny
Worthing 13.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
London (Croydon) 13.1 6.6 7.9 sunny
Bognor Regis 13.3 6.6 7.9 sunny
Southsea 13.4 6.6 7.9 sunny
Southend 13.5 6.6 7.9 sunny
Bournemouth 13.6 6.6 7.9 sunny
Poole 13.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Swanage 13.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Slynnmouth 12.6 6.6 7.9 sunny
Exmouth 12.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Teignmouth 12.4 6.6 7.9 sunny
Torquay 12.5 6.6 7.9 sunny
Plymouth 12.6 6.6 7.9 sunny
Scilly Isles 13.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Jersey 13.8 6.6 7.9 sunny
Aberdeen 12.2 6.6 7.9 sunny
Stornoway 12.3 6.6 7.9 sunny
Orkney 12.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Morecambe 12.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Douglas 10.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Birmingham 12.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Bristol 12.1 6.6 7.9 sunny
Buxton 12.8 6.6 7.9 sunny
Leeds 12.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Newcastle 12.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Nottingham 10.1 6.6 7.9 sunny
Anglesey 12.6 6.6 7.9 sunny
Cardiff 13.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Porthcawl 12.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Tenby 12.2 6.6 7.9 sunny
Aberavon 12.2 6.6 7.9 sunny
Avalon 12.9 6.6 7.9 sunny
Bridgend 12.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Kilross 13.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Stornoway 4.3 14.5 15.9 bright sunny
Isle of Man 14.1 20.9 22.8 sunny
Belfast 12.2 6.6 7.9 sunny
Belfast Monday's figures are latest available.

AROUND BRITAIN

Scarborough 13.8 6.4 7.8 sunny
Hastings 12.5 6.6 7.9 sunny
Cardiff 13.5 6.6 7.9 sunny
Clacton 13.6 6.6 7.9 sunny
Worthing 13.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
London (Croydon) 13.1 6.6 7.9 sunny
Bognor Regis 13.3 6.6 7.9 sunny
Southsea 13.4 6.6 7.9 sunny
Southend 13.5 6.6 7.9 sunny
Bournemouth 13.6 6.6 7.9 sunny
Poole 13.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Swanage 13.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Slynnmouth 12.6 6.6 7.9 sunny
Exmouth 12.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Teignmouth 12.4 6.6 7.9 sunny
Torquay 12.5 6.6 7.9 sunny
Plymouth 12.6 6.6 7.9 sunny
Scilly Isles 13.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Jersey 13.8 6.6 7.9 sunny
Aberdeen 12.2 6.6 7.9 sunny
Stornoway 12.3 6.6 7.9 sunny
Orkney 12.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Morecambe 12.1 6.6 7.9 sunny
Douglas 10.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Birmingham 12.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Bristol 12.1 6.6 7.9 sunny
Buxton 12.8 6.6 7.9 sunny
Leeds 12.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Newcastle 12.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Nottingham 10.1 6.6 7.9 sunny
Anglesey 12.2 6.6 7.9 sunny
Cardiff 13.0 6.6 7.9 sunny
Porthcawl 12.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Tenby 12.2 6.6 7.9 sunny
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Avalon 12.9 6.6 7.9 sunny
Bridgend 12.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Kilross 13.7 6.6 7.9 sunny
Stornoway 4.3 14.5 15.9 bright sunny
Isle of Man 14.1 20.9 22.8 sunny
Belfast 12.2 6.6 7.9 sunny
Belfast Monday's figures are latest available.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 8.25 pm to 5.29 am
Bristol 8.33 pm to 5.25 am
Edinburgh 8.40 pm to 5.31 am
Plymouth 8.42 pm to 5.35 am

Sun rises 5.31 am
Sun sets 8.25 pm

Moon sets 2.58 am
Moon rises 12.33 pm

Full Moon May 9

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c. cloud, f. rain, r. sun, s. sun

Belfast 6.65 7.25 8.65 9.65 10.65 11.65 12.65 13.65 14.65 15.65 16.65 17.65 18.65 19.65 20.65 21.65 22.65 23.65 24.65 25.65 26.65 27.65 28.65 29.65 30.65 31.65 32.65 33.65 34.65 35.65 36.65

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- RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY 43
- SPORT 44-48

BUSINESS

SECTION 2

WEDNESDAY MAY 2 1990

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar 1.6395 (+0.0020)
W German mark 2.7585 (+0.0061)
Exchange index 86.9 (+0.3)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1663.5 (+9.9)
FT-SE 100 2117.9 (+14.5)

USM (Datavstream)

130.80 (+0.26)

Market report, page 28

E&E rights issue to raise £29m

ELLIS & Everard is raising £29 million in a rights issue to buy two US chemicals distribution businesses - HVC and Kramer. It is the second such rights issue within 18 months.

The terms are one for three at 152p. The shares fell by 16p to 180p on the news.

Tempus, page 26

L&OF higher

London & Overseas Freighters is raising its dividend from 6p to 1p a share after posting pre-tax profits of £1.32 million (£1 million) for the year ended March 30.

Tempus, page 26

Ashley ahead

Ashley Group, the Spanish food retailer and Apollo blinds business, made pre-tax profits for the six months to February of £5.84 million, up from £1.86 million. Earnings per share rose from 2.82p to 4.11p and the interim dividend is 0.65p (0.5p).

Tempus, page 26

STOCK MARKETS

New York Dow Jones 2572.75 (+15.98)
Tokyo Nikkei Average 29889.83 (+10.03)
Hong Kong Hang Seng 2945.18 (-4.91)
Amsterdam CAC 1160.1 (-0.2)
Sydney AD 1440.8 (-4.8)
Paris CAC 4000 DAX Closed

Brussels General Closed
Paris CAC Closed
Zurich SKA Gen Closed

Liabilities of up to £1bn at Atlantic

By Angela Mackay

ATLANTIC Computers, the computer leasing subsidiary of British & Commonwealth, the cash-strapped financial services group, has gross liabilities of between £500 million and £1 billion, according to Price Waterhouse, its administrator.

Mr Peter Padmore, one of the two administrators, said unsecured creditors' chances of receiving a payout were "grim" and that there was "a certain inevitability" that Atlantic would be put into liquidation.

Moreover, Atlantic's dilemma could take "several years" to unravel considering most of the company's 2,500 leases will not expire for up to six years.

B&C's shares were suspended last month after the com-

pany announced it was writing off its £550 million investment in Atlantic.

B&C has embarked on a £750 million asset disposal programme to stave off creditors.

Analysts consider B&C may be forced to make more provisions when it reports its 1989 results next month.

Price Waterhouse said the company's US operations may provide a source of "major recoveries" for Atlantic's 200 creditors, including Royal Bank of Canada.

The US group, which owes £84 million to its British parent, has no liquidity problems. Mr John Soden, the other administrator, confirmed that all the US assets would be sold.

Mr Soden said redundancies had been made in the US including Mr Philip Gold, the chief executive.

Several offers have been made to buy parts of the business and there have been offers to manage the lease portfolio until it matures.

Mr Soden said the 2,500 leases had to be "stratified" because each was unique and tailor-made for users. He said the £600 million British portfolio comprised about 1,000 blue-chip end users.

None of the lease holders had exercised "flex" or "walk" clauses. These allow customers to terminate leases before maturity.

Price Waterhouse has already sold one of Atlantic's companies - Wakebourne, a computer maintenance group - for an undisclosed amount.

B&C was yesterday granted a reprieve by its unsecured loan stockholders, who could have forced the company into liquidation for being in technical breach of its covenants. They are not taking action while awaiting proposals from B&C.



'Grim chance': John Soden, left, and Peter Padmore

DAF gives warning of a loss

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

DAF, the Eindhoven-based truck-maker which took over the Leyland trucks operation in Britain, has given a warning that it faces a loss in the first half of this year. A big downturn in demand in Britain is blamed.

The first-half loss, compared with the same period of last year, could be between £6.6 million and £10 million, DAF said. First-half profits last year were more than £24 million.

Since predicting lower first-half results in its annual report, the trend has worsened, the company said. However, it still expects full-year results to show a profit as it brings in efficiency improvements. Deliveries will be down in the first half, but should be equal in the full year to the 1989 total of 58,600 commercial vehicles.

Falling profits in the closing months of last year were noticeable in the UK because business activities were hit by low exchange rates and high interest rates, DAF said.

The company has revised its forecast mainly because UK demand has declined further and sales of light commercial vehicles have dropped in France.

Market demand in the UK is running about 25 per cent down compared with the same time last year. An improvement is not expected before the second half of this year.

To counter the effects of the sales slowdown, DAF has brought in a "stringent" profit improvement programme. It announced productivity improvements, cost savings and improved efficiency.

He voiced concern about the high cost of borrowing for smaller firms and their limited scope for responding to falling home demand by shedding labour or switching to exports.

"The UK needs entrepreneurial seeds for the future," he stressed.

The CBI's strong warning on employment accompanied

survey findings that showed business confidence declining for the sixth consecutive quarter. The survey covers companies accounting for about half of Britain's exports and manufacturing.

Though it pointed to a slight decline in the risk of the economy going into recession, as buoyant exports sustain output, the CBI is deeply worried by a decline in investment intentions.

Smaller firms reported sharply weaker investment plans, while bigger companies and producers of capital goods plan more investment, again highlighting the gap between big and small.

Mr Wigglesworth said lower investment intentions reflected the squeeze on companies' profits exerted by the high cost of finance and labour, while the drop in home demand is making it difficult for British manufacturers to match the productivity growth of their main rivals abroad.

"As a result, it seems likely that many thousands of jobs will be lost as companies seek to reduce their unit costs to remain competitive in world markets," he said.

It is "critical" that Britain's unit labour costs do not get out of line with those of its competitors.

On Monday Mr John Banham, the CBI director-general, called for Britain to stop paying itself more dividends, salaries and wages than it earned.

Though gloomy, the survey indicated that the risk of a recession has receded slightly.

Comment, page 27

Chairman aims to quadruple sales to £200m in five years

By Wolfgang Münchau, European Business Correspondent

RANK Xerox, one of the largest manufacturers of photocopiers, has unveiled plans to quadruple its exposure to the Soviet market during the next five years.

Photocopiers have until recently been widely banned throughout the Eastern bloc, partly in an attempt to curb the spread of "subversive" pamphlets and literature. They are now being considered a typical product of the glasnost era.

The market for photocopiers is still depressed with 40 copiers per 1 million of the Soviet population against 3,000 per 1 million in Western Europe.

Mr David Thompson, chairman of Rank Xerox (UK), said he hoped to increase sales from £50 million per year to at least £200 million in five years although Xerox's market share, currently at 50 per cent, will drop sharply as a result of increased competition from Japanese companies, like Canon. Never-

theless, Mr Thompson considers the Eastern bloc market as the fastest growing in the world during this decade.

The company will invest about £11 million over the next 18 months to expand its Eastern European business. But with a shortage of foreign currency in the Soviet Union about 70 per cent of revenues will be settled in barter deals.

"We have become handy at trading in camel saddles, animal feed, fertilizer, hanging baskets, marble, furniture and other fascinating goods," Mr Thompson said. "Two of our favourite products are Bulgarian beer and wine."

The high proportion of barter trade against hard currency is unlikely to fall in the near future, as the Soviets, who until recently enjoyed a reputation for paying promptly, now find it increasingly difficult to meet payment terms.

Xerox, which has been trading with

Eastern Europe for 25 years, runs one Copy Shop in Moscow. There are plans to open two more stores, in Kiev and in Leningrad. The company's Eastern European business will continue to be managed out of London, although its West German operation will come under its West German subsidiary.

Mr Thompson, however, expressed some concern that British industry is not sufficiently geared up to do deals with the Eastern bloc. "It is disappointing that so few British companies are prepared to invest in Eastern Europe, compared with their continental counterparts."

Mr Ralph Land, Xerox's general manager of Eastern Exports operations, said the process of change is likely to continue for some time to come. On a long-term projection, market growth of photocopiers is estimated to rise 16-fold by the end of this decade.



Two-way bet: Eugene Anderson, the Ferranti chairman, whose performance-based share options were confirmed

Write-offs at Ferranti likely to reach £200m

By Our City Staff

FERRANTI International, the defrauded electronics and defence group, is expected to write off about £200 million in its balance sheet last September caused by suspected fraudulent defence contracts at ISC. It has started legal action against Mr James Guerin, the former deputy chairman and chief executive.

At an extraordinary general meeting to approve Mr Anderson's remuneration, he said "write-offs of a trading and extraordinary type will be very substantial" when the company announces its results in July. He noted that the result of the reassessment will be "a modest addition to shareholder funds."

Mr Anderson also made some implied criticisms of Sir Derek Alun-Jones, his predecessor, pointing out that the company's performance over the past few years had been unsatisfactory in addition to the problems caused by ISC, its subsidiary.

Mr Ian McLeod, electronics analyst at County NatWest, the broker, said Mr Anderson's comments implied write-offs of £200 million. "This will have the effect of almost halving the net asset value of the company after disposals," he said.

Ferranti shares eased 1.5p

Globe to lobby MPs

THE chairman of Globe Investment Trust, which is fighting £1.03 billion bid from the British Coal Pension Funds, said he will fight the "nationalization" of the investment trust.

Mr David Hardy, speaking at the annual meeting of Candover Investments, the management buy-out specialist in which Globe has a 16.2

per cent stake, said the trust is planning a shareholders' rally in Westminster to protest to MPs.

"So long as Globe remains independent," he said, "it will continue to support Candover. But like so many of its innovative investments, Candover would be under threat if Globe were nationalized by the Coal Board."

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Mr Harry to cease output in South

MR HARRY, the high street clothing group, is to stop production in the South with the loss of more than 180 jobs.

Production at the company's factory at Woodley, near Reading, is due to stop next month. The entire operation is to move to Hartlepool, Cleveland.

Mr Harry Rael-Brock, chairman and joint managing director, said fluctuating staff levels had forced the company to move.

"The demand for menswear is growing, but we have not always been able to meet that demand due to an ongoing departure of production staff," he said.

ECGD to move

The Export Credit Guarantee Department will next year become the first Government department to relocate to London Docklands. The ECGD, whose present City headquarters on Ludgate Hill houses 500 staff, will start to move to the Harbour Exchange development from the summer.

Gas plans

British Gas has denied reports that it had immediate plans for a sharp increase in oil imports from Norway, although such a move could not be ruled out at some time. According to a spokesman, British Gas is keen to achieve a lifting of restrictions on the import of foreign gas.

Anglian venture

Anglian Water has formed a joint venture with Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners, the consulting engineers, to provide consultancy services to the water industry abroad. Anglian will give design and supervision work for £40 million of its domestic investment over the next two years.

Owners issue

More than two-thirds of Owners Abroad's £17.25 million rights issue to finance its purchase of Redwing, the tour operator, has been left with the underwriters. Only 29 per cent of the convertible preference shares have been taken up by shareholders.

Opec gathers

Opec ministers have gathered in Geneva for crisis talks on cuts in output needed to end a glut which has sent world oil prices down by 25 per cent since January and could threaten a new drop.

Heal's ballot

Shopworkers at two Heal's stores, the furniture chain which is part of the Storehouse group, are to be balloted on industrial action after claiming their pay has been cut by up to £1,000 a year.

Cargo advances

Pre-tax profits at Cargo Control almost doubled from £154,000 to £295,000 in 1989. The company is paying a final dividend of 0.1p, the first since the business was reversed into Jantar last year.

Shearson deal

Shearson Lehman Hutton, the US investment bank, is to extend its relationship with Nippon Life Insurance with a new joint venture in Panagora Asset Management.

Apollo ahead

Apollo Watch Products reports pre-tax profits of £1.38 million for 1989, against £1.04 million. The annual dividend is lifted from 0.45p to 0.5p.

No surprises as latest Ellis call heralds collapse in share price

IN THE past year, Ellis & Everard's shares have twice raced towards 240p, only to collapse each time to about 180p. Ellis is a bit puzzled by this volatility.

Shares held by the board — chaired by Mr Mike Marshall — and ICI account for more than 30 per cent of the equity, making a bid unlikely, and a dozen British institutions have been stable holders of a further 50 per cent.

However, if the magnitude of the share price fluctuations remains a mystery, the timing of the latest collapse should come as no surprise. The shares fell 16p to 180p yesterday on news of a 1-for-3 rights issue at 152p. The bulk of the £29 million proceeds will go towards the acquisition of two more US chemical distributors, 18 months after a £25 million call for the same purpose.

The 1988 call caused a temporary setback to the share price, but at least Ellis could then look back on a five-year period in which earnings per share had grown at an annual rate of 25 per cent. Now, Ellis is less well supported by its immediate record.

The company estimates that its profits for the year ended last month will be not less than £15 million, though it does not forecast its earnings. Brokers estimate that, at best, these will turn out at about 18p, just 6 per cent up on the 17p notched up in 1988-89. However, after the 16 per cent rise to 9.3p in the first half, that result would imply some decline in the second.

Of course, a smooth record of earnings growth is not everything — although it is quite important for a company making regular calls on shareholders to support its expansion. Ellis's latest US purchases, HVIC and Kramer, will extend its existing distribution businesses in the eastern seaboard and southern states. It is paying \$29.5 million for companies which made \$4 million before tax, but a low tax charge and economies on insurance costs mean the price works out at less than 12 times earnings.

If Ellis makes £21 million in the current year, boosting its own earnings by another penny to 19p, the prospective



Eyes on the US: Mike Marshall, Ellis & Everard chairman, centre, with Stephen Bentley, finance director, left, and Peter Wood, managing director

p/e ratio at the ex-rights price of 173p will be about 9, which is reasonable. Whether the shares are about to shoot back up to 240p is more questionable.

LOFs

THE one-year share price graph of London & Overseas Freighters looks like a series of high tide waves — showing a share price which rolled from 76p last May to touch 120p in July, fell back to 77p in October, then challenged 125p again in March, only to fall back to 111p.

The year's profit performance is somewhat smoother, and, since showing a \$1.9 million pre-tax loss in 1988, and a \$1 million pre-tax profit in 1989, there has been further progress to \$1.32 million of pre-tax profits for the year ended March 31, 1990.

LOFs still suffers from a debt burden with gross interest charges of \$1.84 million on \$16 million of debt, though the fleet repair bill which jumped from \$274,000 to \$836,000 could be non-recurring. In addition, administration expenses rose from \$500,000 to \$804,000.

The group's two eight-year-old vessels are plying at higher average daily charter rates (\$1,400 up at \$13,600 a day) and remain in demand. One spent most of the year on charter to Chevron, the other was largely in US and European waters.

LOFs is likely to acquire modern tankers this year, deals which will be funded

internally, so the debt burden could start to rise again.

The substantial part of the equity (64 per cent) remains in the hands of the Kulukundis family, who, despite specific mention of the higher costs of maintaining a share market quote, intend to keep LOFs listed.

If charter rates remain firm, net earnings should sail forward again this year — possibly to the 7.3p a share level.

At 111p, up 5p on results, the prospective p/e is 15.2 — well above the market, and well up with the tide.

Ashley Group

SPAIN may no longer be a fashionable holiday place but it is all the rage among British businesses, especially retailers. Ashley Group, which is run by part of the old

Gateway management team, has been there longer than most, with the bulk of its profits coming from Spanish food retailing.

Spain is attractive to food retailers for a number of reasons. The economy has one of the best growth rates in Europe, the market is fragmented and immature, and there is scope for sales and margin growth through the use of the types of systems and technology which have brought riches to the large British food retailers.

Ashley certainly appears to be reaping the benefits. Pre-tax profits for the six months to February were £5.84 million, up from £1.86 million on sales of £123 million, up from £89 million. Earnings per share rose from 2.82p to 4.11p and the interim dividend is 65p, up from 0.5p.

Diggs, the Spanish food distribution business which operates 177 Compre Bien stores and has 579 franchised CB Ahorro supermarkets, contributed £3.4 million, up from £1.78 million. Like-for-like sales growth is about 5 per cent and there are plans for six more Compre Bien stores in the second half.

Ashley's other main business, Apollo, the Glasgow window blind retailer, contributed £2.27 million to profits, £1.37 million in the second half. Apollo provides an earnings stream to offset the advance corporation tax burden on the group's dividends, and the business is being developed in Europe.

Ashley's balance sheet is strong and the group is expected to have gearing of about 10 per cent at the year-end. Ashley may suffer from the perception that it is a company which grows only by acquisition and while Spanish food retailing acquisitions will be considered, the group says it has no plans for a rights issue.

The shares, up 4p to 92p, are trading on a p/e ratio of 10.5 times, assuming pre-tax profits of £12.5 million, and are half way between their high and low point for the last 12 months. Assuming Spain is the growth market many believe it to be, the shares should perform well in the long term but could have a bumpy ride getting there.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Waterford workers to continue strike

WORKERS at the Waterford crystal plant of the troubled Waterford Wedgwood group have voted to continue their strike. The 2,300 workers at Waterford's three plants went on strike over management cost-cutting plans when the company stopped bonus payments for 500 glass cutters. Mr Paddy Galvin, Waterford chief executive, said: "I earnestly entreat the union leaders to meet me and my colleagues to try to resolve a highly dangerous and traumatic impasse."

Waterford Wedgwood, hit by a slump in the US and British markets, made a pre-tax loss last year of £12.6 million (£20.5 million) with accumulated debts of £125 million. In March, a group of investors led by Mr Tony O'Reilly, chairman, of H.J. Heinz, the food group, and Morgan Stanley, the New York investment bank, took a 29.9 per cent stake in the group. Waterford was unchanged at 30p.

James Beattie Profits slump at Chrysler

THE Midlands department store group James Beattie produced pre-tax profits of £8.8 million for the year to January 31, against £8.01 million previously. Trading profits were down, but cash balances earned interest of £2.5 million against £1.63 million before. Earnings per share were 12.51p (11.25p) and the final dividend is 6.5p, up from 4.5p.

ASHLEY, the Spanish food

retailer, has reported a

sharp fall in first-quarter earnings due to the

slump in the US car industry

was reported by Chrysler

Motor Corporation. Profits

fell from \$351 million in the

first quarter of 1989 to \$71

million. Profits in 1989 as a

whole were down to \$315

million, after restructuring

costs.

Computer growth 'to slow'

MR JOHN AKERS, chairman of International Business Machines, told shareholders that although the ebullient days of high-technology growth may be over, plenty of opportunity remains for computer makers.

Mr Akers said at the annual meeting that he expects the worldwide computer market to grow at about 7 to 10 per cent a year, down from its traditional growth rate of 15 per cent.

He also emphasized that IBM, which had sales of \$62.7 billion last year, will benefit from cutting staff by 50,000 and eliminating two layers of management. He indicated that there may be additional measures to make the company more efficient.

Leisure bid deadline set

EUROPEAN Leisure has set Friday May 11 as the final deadline in its bid for Midsummer Leisure after better-than-expected acceptances totalling 34.33 per cent by Monday's first closing date.

The total includes the 19.8 per cent previously committed to the offer, of which 15.1 per cent was held by the directors who later withdrew their recommendation.

'Clean up' man to go

PRESIDENT Bush has asked Mr William Siedman, the widely respected chairman of the US Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, to step down shortly to allow a new person to handle the savings and loan industry's "clean up". Mr Siedman, who is 69 next month, has said he would like to go before his present term expires next year.

Part of his job is to handle the sale of over \$200 billion in US property held by failed savings and loans institutions, and he recently told President Bush the cost of this would be far higher than original estimates. The latest official estimate puts the cost at \$500 billion over the next 30 years.

Resignation of B&T chief

BROWN & TAWSE Group, the distributor of pipeline and steel products which in 1989 set up a "special products" division and made Mr Colin Milne its managing director, said Mr Milne "has resigned as a director of the company and has left the group with effect from April 30." Mr Milne was previously the group's finance director.

CGT warning in Camford defence

By Our City Staff

THE board of Camford Engineering, under siege from Mr John Spalvin's Markheath Securities, has posted its final defence document to shareholders.

After raising its bid to 330p a share last week, Markheath's offer now values Camford at about £70 million. But that, says Mr Brian Cox, Camford's chairman, "totally fails to put a proper value on the company."

The document also points out that shareholders who bought their shares more than four years ago may be facing a capital gains tax liability of 87p a share.

Camford's shares, however, stand at 331p, just ahead of

Markheath's offer, currently owns about 37 per cent of Camford.

Mr Cox believes Markheath's offer, after stripping out property sales worth 128p a share, puts Camford's engineering business on a prospective price/earnings

multiple of under 8.1. That, he says, "is derisory."

Mr Cox believes the prospects for the British car industry are bright, with car production rising by 40 per cent by 1995. "Established UK car component makers such as Camford will benefit directly from expansion of vehicle output," he says.

ICI faces satisfactory year, says Henderson

By Our City Staff

SIR DENYS HENDERSON, the chairman of ICI, told shareholders that, barring any further sharp economic downturn, he was confident the strength of the group's business portfolio should ensure another "reasonably satisfactory" year.

The strategic re-direction of the 1980s has allowed us to enter the new decade in excellent shape, with much improved financial ratios, better productivity, stronger research and technology and a much more balanced, more international portfolio," he said.

Domino chief resigns

By Our City Staff

MR ALAN BARRELL, chief executive of Domino Printing Sciences, has resigned. He intends to set up a marketing services consultancy.

The shares traded unchanged at 162p.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

AB Leisure (125p)	113	Midland Radio (100p)	130
AB Group (14p)	161	Ntn Investors (100p)	203
Abstrus New Euro (100p)	94.1	Plateau Mining (100p)	60.1
Argos Plc	193.1	QCS Hidex (100p)	106
Bell Global Energy (100p)	81	Slim Select (100p)	88
Biotronik (10p)	20.1	TR High Inc (520p)	100
Bookbinders (100p)	81.1	Turner Bros (155p)	149
Dakota Gp (10p)	241.6	Venture Inv Tst (100p)	10
Darmoor Inv Tst (100p)	92	Wistaria Brew (70p)	65
Euromoney	328	See main listing for Water shares	
First German (100p)	119		
First Ireland (

Outstanding staying power.

Extracts from ICI Chairman Sir Denys Henderson's address to the Annual General Meeting of Imperial Chemical Industries PLC on May 1st 1990

The 1989 results were a record, and we exceeded £1.5bn pre-tax profits for the first time. Pharmaceuticals and Agrochemicals both had an excellent year and Colours and Fine Chemicals, Specialty Chemicals and Polyurethanes also did well. But it was a challenging year, with two distinct phases. During the first half demand was at record levels. In the second half growth rates slowed, particularly in the housing, construction and automobile markets in the UK and in North America. Businesses primarily involved in these sectors, that is, Paints, and Industrial Products including Explosives, ended up pretty well level pegging with 1988, but with good profits nonetheless.

There were some disappointments. Films had a difficult time. The Fertilizer business managed to contain its losses but was not able to get back into profit in spite of rationalisation in Europe and the actions we have taken in the UK and Canada.

Overall, the 1989 results demonstrate the value of a carefully focussed, robust portfolio and we are now seeing the benefit of the many changes we have made in recent years.

Sharpening our competitive edge

Change will continue. We are focussing single mindedly on activities where we are, and will continue to be, world competitive — technically, commercially and territorially. In 1989 we made nearly 50 acquisitions and divestments. Among those being completed this year I would highlight the acquisition of the Atlas Powder Co. This will give the ICI Explosives business a strong presence in the United States, thus completing our comprehensive coverage of the world's major markets. We also increased capital expenditure to more than £1bn and continued to invest in new businesses, such as Seeds, Advanced Materials, Imagedata and Biological Products.

At the same time, we have maintained very satisfactory financial ratios and increased research expenditure to almost £640m. Our return on net assets puts us amongst the world's most profitable chemical companies, but we are still able to devote sufficient resource to ensure our innovative capability for the future.

All of which are convincing reasons for recommending a final dividend, which at 10% above the previous year will be the seventh consecutive annual increase.

Opportunities worldwide

We are living through a period of historic change. Events in Eastern Europe have moved with incredible rapidity and, if adequate political solutions are found, there will eventually be a massive additional market for our products.

ICI has employees and offices in virtually all the East European countries, and we are well positioned to grow our business.

We must also take action in Asia Pacific markets, where around 40% of chemicals expansion in the next decade will occur. Since 1986 we have approved investment of more than £100m in Japan and last year we approved investment of £200m for plants in Thailand and Taiwan, where growth prospects are also good.

There are thus three major trading blocs for ICI products. North America, where we are now powerfully established. Europe, where we are thoroughly entrenched and ready to take advantage of EEC and Eastern European potential. And Asia Pacific, where we are investing strongly.

ICI and the environment

I have been much concerned in recent years that we should achieve steady improvement in our health and safety at work, and in our environmental performance.

As far as safety is concerned the Group's performance has improved significantly. Accidents in 1989 were 25% down on 1988. Nevertheless there were three fatalities. Each has led to a most demanding search for means to prevent re-occurrence.

We must also seek a significant improvement in our environmental performance where there is enormous change in public expectations. I believe there is a real imperative for ICI to be "World Class" in an environmental sense as well as in its business performance. This is how we are going about it.

First, we have placed improving our environmental performance high on the management agenda, with results being regularly monitored by the Board. ICI people and their families live in the community, often close to our plants, and we all share environmental concerns.

Second, we are intent on reducing emissions from our existing plants, for example with new waste recovery plants. The level of investment and the rate of improvement in these areas will increase. We are also working with our customers to help them solve their waste problems by, for example, re-cycling CFCs and plastics.

Investing in Britain's future

Let me turn now to research, where in 1989 we increased our expenditure to about £640m. Over the last five years our research manpower has increased by 35% and we now have about 14,000 scientists and technologists. Their efforts are the principal source of innovation and the mainspring for our future growth.

It is also a very special UK asset. Our research represents 7% of manufacturing industry's R&D and science based companies like ICI are rare in this country. Two thirds of the UK's total civil R&D is carried out by only twenty companies who, in turn, are major exporters. If the UK is to continue to play a significant part in world trade, these resources have to be nurtured and applied internationally.

ICI research covers biological science and polymers and materials science from which the major growth areas of the 90s will spring and it has an academic funding programme which supports more than 50 University projects. Today's new products — drugs such as 'Diprivan' and 'Zoladex', and agrochemicals products such as 'Kerate' and 'Force' — reflect investment made 5-10 years ago, when we began to increase the proportion of the Research budget which went into the biological sciences. We have stepped up our commitment to biotechnology — a powerful enabling technology for pharmaceuticals, plant breeding and agrochemicals.

This year's Queen's Awards are good evidence of ICI's inventiveness and our ability to convert it into valuable business. Besides the Award for the FM21 chlorine production cells, Awards for technological achievement have been made to ICI Colours and Fine Chemicals for a new class of polyester dyes; and to ICI Cellmark Diagnostics, jointly with the Lister Institute for Preventive Medicine, for discovery and development of genetic finger printing.

Awards for export achievement have been won by ICI Agrochemicals, which has doubled its exports in the last five years and to Cambridge Research Biochemicals, which was acquired by ICI in 1989.

Vision and change

ICI began life in 1926. Sixty three years on we are thriving, have grown into the UK's biggest manufacturing company and the super league of the world's chemical companies. This suggests outstanding staying power.

The first quarter results bear this out with profits before tax amounting to £414m — a considerable rebound from the depressed fourth quarter of 1989, but some £28m below the first quarter of 1989. Bearing in mind the more difficult economic conditions today by comparison with the early part of last year this performance can be regarded as encouraging. Particularly noteworthy was the strong profit growth of the Bioscience businesses. Pharmaceuticals, Agrochemicals and Seeds, which achieved trading profits of £216m compared with £151m in the first quarter of 1989.

At this stage it is difficult to predict the outcome for the whole of 1990, but barring any further sharp economic downturn I believe that the strength of our business portfolio should ensure that we have a reasonably satisfactory year — and we shall continue to pay close attention to costs, as I urged in the autumn of last year.

The period ahead may be uncertain but I would emphasise that we are better prepared than at any time in our history both to seize opportunities and to embrace change. The strategic re-direction of the 80s has allowed us to enter the new decade in excellent shape, with much improved financial ratios, better productivity, stronger Research and Technology and a much more balanced, more international portfolio. We have the people too, men and women of all nationalities, who are the ultimate, enduring and vital competitive advantage of this Group.

I am convinced that the single factor which will ensure that ICI will continue to grow profitably worldwide, is the application with determination, consistency and farsightedness of those policies which are relevant to the times in which we live. It is our ability to anticipate change and adapt to it that has allowed ICI to flourish. We have exited the 80s with record profits and clear strategies which will carry us forward into the next century as one of Britain's very few genuinely international, science based, world competitive companies.



THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD	82, Holdersfield Rd, Broomhouse BH5 5AL				For Exst S 5	88.08	72.65	-0.13	0.77	Europe	260.8	260.76	-0.02	0.00	Higher Inc	126.5	134.2		7.69	High Yield	188.3	201.46		8.20
Tel: 01384 777373 (Linkline)					Gold Gen S 3	89.93	67.22	+0.10	4.61	Intl Res	67.48	72.36	-0.57	1.82	Jap Acc	90.84	980.86		0.06	Do Acc	57.14	357.26		6.20
GB/Flood	1002 1052 -0.4 10.26				Gold Gen S 3	70.93	40.74	+1.7	1.57	Extrn Res	25.41	25.13	-0.15	0.59	Intl Svc Acc	121.9	123.96		0.00	Do Acc	22.16	237.0		5.63
High Inc Equity	125.8 133.7 -0.1 1.1	4.75			Br Excellence	45.10	47.96	-0.4	3.74	Extrn Reserv	24.74	25.30	-0.17	0.60	Intl Svc Acc	123.3	962.36		5.63	Do Acc	22.53	27.03		5.63
Wharf Bond	194.3 205.8 -0.8 2.07				Br Fonds Inc	45.16	52.30	-0.8	2.00	Frontier Mds	37.22	39.90	-0.17	0.00	Smr Cos	52.03	55.66		3.86	Do Acc	45.03	43.64		5.63
Amr Gen 179.1 191.9 -0.2 1.07					Do Acc	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Ope	18.93	17.48	-0.05	0.45	Smr Cos	52.03	55.66		3.86	Do Acc	52.03	55.66		5.63
Asian Pacific	131.2 139.6 -0.4 0.00				Tiger Index	277.8	258.46	+1.1	1.58	Do Del	16.28	16.55	-0.05	0.45	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11		0.67	Do Del	16.28	16.55		0.67
Alstom/Ente	142.0 151.96 -0.1 0.18				Tiger Index	85.08	94.27	-0.82	1.97	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	17.23	-0.19	0.77	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Capitl Res	99.84 99.71 -0.45 0.85				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Comme/Energy	87.33 104.11 -0.11 0.81				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Euro/Capl	98.22 105.16 -0.08 0.90				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
General	159.4 170.5 -0.2 2.03				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Japan	93.41 99.91 -0.73 0.00				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
UK Gen Inc	105.3 112.76 -0.4 2.63				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
US Energy Cos	161.1 172.26 -0.3 1.85				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Income/Gdp	125.5 135.8 -0.1 3.50				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Masterst Acc	85.40 91.34 -0.14 1.54				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Am Inc	49.69 53.15 -0.25 5.16				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Ethical	44.09 47.16 -0.04 2.12				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
18, Queens Terrace, Abberley AB5 1GJ					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Tel: 0224 833670 Dealing (Freephone) 6300					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
53, Flambury Circus, London EC2S 7QD					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Tel: 01374 8271					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
CHURCH OF ENGLAND					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
2, Finsbury Square, London EC2Y 5AQ Tel: 01-71					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
888 1815					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Am Inc/Gtrn	31.82 33.97 -0.08 2.28				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Euro Inc	91.25 97.41 -0.22 0.00				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Empr	66.79 75.26 -0.08 1.50				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Entpr Inc	66.79 75.26 -0.08 1.50				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
F/F Energy Ec	62.45 69.88 -0.01 0.01				Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Allied Dunbar Ctrst, Swindon SN1 3EL					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Tel: 0793 516454 dealling/793 610356					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Barclays UNICORN					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	73.36		0.67	Do Del	16.02	17.23		0.67
Unicorn House, 250, Rosemary Rd E7 Tel: 01-71					Do Del	54.71	68.21	-0.33	1.00	Global Inv/Grp	16.02	69.11	-0.65	0.67	Global Inv/Grp	16.02</td								

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1920 FOREIGN EXCHANGES																	
1920				1930				1935									
High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price						
Bid	Offer		Change div p	Bid	Offer		Change div p	Bid	Offer		Change div p						
%	%		%	%	%		%	%	%		%						
P/E	P/E		P/E	P/E	P/E		P/E	P/E	P/E		P/E						
81	65	ASD	57	72	0+2	4.5	64	49	138	123	Gibson Lyons	115	130	..	7.1	58	11.9
61	41	ATA Selectors	40	45	0 ..	3.3	7.7	9.8	251	263	Gobal Mew	280	295	..	6.3	29	..
234	14	Aberdeen Pet	18	20	..	..	..	..	32	32	Gobal	26	29	..	2.8	3.8	..
45	42	Aerdenrik Stk Hsg	43	48	..	2.8	4.3	6.2	185	175	Gross Southern	172	182	0 ..	10.7	60	10.5
171	163	AGC	163	170	..	57	34	11.1	240	222	Gross (Enwest)	210	230	..	6.0	48	9.5
29	19	Acorn Comp	16	21	+1	..	..	..	26	20	Greenwich Comms	18	23	..	..	..	..
67	67	ASCS Group	55	68	0 ..	1.3	19	5.3	210	210	Gretna	195	195	..	..	..	..
95	85	Aspern	70	75	..	2.7	3.7	4.2	200	190	Groves	180	188	..	5.8	142	14.2
153	125	ATA Paul	122	137	+2	4.0	32	15.1	118	85	Hans Koenig	50	57	0 ..	20.0	40	77
116	85	Alcan	86	95	+2	4.3	49	5.6	151	151	Hazardous Waste	50	57	0 ..	26.8	71	15.9

51	57	12.3	54	3% SW Resources	34
55	92	74	23	210 Spenders	205
20	71	13.2	31	13 Specialists	11
39	28	-	21	11 Speculators	9

Month	Euro	DM	Previous	open	interest
-	91.37	91.41	91.37	91.37	
-	90.91	90.95	90.89	90.89	

Vol 45 1998-99 Estimated dead carcass weight

Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your daily dividend figure. If it matches your prize money stated, if you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gross or loss
1	RMC Gp (aa)	Building, Roads	
2	Wimpey	Banks, Discount	
3	Br Telecom (aa)	Electricals	
4	Bodorus	Industrials A-D	
5	Boots (aa)	Industrials A-D	
6	Racial Telecom (aa)	Electricals	
7	Smiths Ind (aa)	Industrials S-Z	
8	Johnson Cleaners	Industrials E-K	
9	Lloyd's (aa)	Banks, Discount	
10	Smiths Beech (aa)	Industrials S-Z	
11	British Gas (aa)	Oil, Gas	
12	Wood (SW)	Industrials S-Z	
13	Trefusis	Industrials S-Z	
14	BOC (aa)	Industrials A-D	
15	Br Land (aa)	Properties	
16	IMI (aa)	Industrials E-K	
17	Castrol-Schep (aa)	Foods	
18	Abbey National (aa)	Banks, Discount	
19	Warrburg SG	Banks, Discount	
20	Mowlem (John)	Building, Roads	
21	Steeleye	Building, Roads	
22	Beattie (James) 'A'	Drapers, Stores	
23	Speckhaw	Properties	
24	Yale & Valor	Industrials S-Z	
25	Tiptooth	Transport	
26	Butlers	Foods	
27	Slough Estates (aa)	Properties	
28	Rentokil	Chemicals, Plastics	
29	Bourne End	Properties	
30	Sater	Industrials S-Z	
31	Europcar	Industrials E-K	
32	MEPC (aa)	Properties	
33	Guinness (aa)	Breweries	
34	Hambros	Banks, Discount	
35	Bass (aa)	Breweries	
36	Clarkson (H)	Transport	
37	Br Dredging	Building, Roads	
38	Total	Textiles	
39	Rank Org (aa)	Industrials L-R	
40	BAT (aa)	Tobaccos	
41	Doctors	Industrials A-D	
42	Uld Biscuits (aa)	Foods	
43	Love Group	Paper, Print, Advs	
44	Smith David	Paper, Print, Advs	

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	Total

There were no valid claims for yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize. The money will be added on to today's prize, making £4,000 in total.

BRITISH FUNDS

No.	High	Low	Stock	Int.	Group	Int.	Group

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

785	720	690	100	11.20			
800	780	750	100	11.10			
805	770	740	100	11.00			
810	770	740	100	11.00			
815	770	740	100	11.00			
820	770	740	100	11.00			
825	770	740	100	11.00			
830	770	740	100	11.00			
835	770	740	100	11.00			
840	770	740	100	11.00			
845	770	740	100	11.00			
850	770	740	100	11.00			
855	770	740	100	11.00			
860	770	740	100	11.00			
865	770	740	100	11.00			
870	770	740	100	11.00			
875	770	740	100	11.00			
880	770	740	100	11.00			
885	770	740	100	11.00			
890	770	740	100	11.00			
895	770	740	100	11.00			
900	770	740	100	11.00			
905	770	740	100	11.00			
910	770	740	100	11.00			
915	770	740	100	11.00			
920	770	740	100	11.00			
925	770	740	100	11.00			
930	770	740	100	11.00			
935	770	740	100	11.00			
940	770	740	100	11.00			
945	770	740	100	11.00			
950	770	740	100	11.00			
955	770	740	100	11.00			
960	770	740	100	11.00			
965	770	740	100	11.00			
970	770	740	100	11.00			
975	770	740	100	11.00			
980	770	740	100	11.00			
985	770	740	100	11.00			
990	770	740	100	11.00			
995	770	740	100	11.00			
1000	770	740	100	11.00			
1005	770	740	100	11.00			
1010	770	740	100	11.00			
1015	770	740	100	11.00			
1020	770	740	100	11.00			
1025	770	740	100	11.00			
1030	770	740	100	11.00			
1035	770	740	100	11.00			
1040	770	740	100	11.00			
1045	770	740	100	11.00			
1050	770	740	100	11.00			
1055	770	740	100	11.00			
1060	770	740	100	11.00			
1065	770	740	100	11.00			
1070	770	740	100	11.00			
1075	770	740	100	11.00			
1080	770	740	100	11.00			
1085	770	740	100	11.00			
1090	770	740	100	11.00			
1095	770	740	100	11.00			
1100	770	740	100	11.00			
1105	770	740	100	11.00			
1110	770	740	100	11.00			
1115	770	740	100	11.00			
1120	770	740	100	11.00			
1125	770	740	100	11.00			
1130	770	740	100	11.00			
1135	770	740	100	11.00			
1140	770	740	100	11.00			
1145	770	740	100	11.00			
1150	770	740	100	11.00			
1155	770	740	100	11.00			
1160	770	740	100	11.00			
1165	770	740	100	11.00			
1170	770	740	100	11.00			
1175	770	740	100	11.00			
1180	770	740	100	11.00			
1185	770	740	100	11.00			
1190	770	74					

SECRETARIAL 1990

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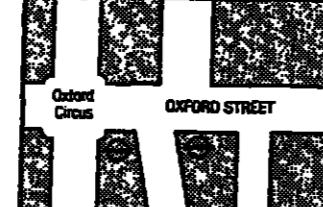
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SECRETARIAL

The London Secretary Show starts today at Olympia 2 and, as Alan Hamilton writes, dedication is the name of the game

Penny's empire

The back of Penny Pike's hand is black and blue with a series of urgent felt-tip messages written on it. She apologises for detaining me, but would I accept coffee while she transmits a long and urgent fax to Richard? I sit in her outer office, waiting. It is a houseboat on the Grand Union Canal.

I am not altogether surprised at the surroundings. Somehow, a floating personal assistant fits perfectly naturally into the unconventional and informal image of the Branson empire.

Penny, finally freed from the fax, relates that she left school with seven O levels, went to secretarial college, and began working in the stultifying boredom of the conveyancing section of a solicitors' office. But at least, she says, it taught her accuracy; you did not dare make a typing mistake as Tipp-Ex did not look well on legal documents.

But the low point of her secretarial career, she believes, came when she worked at a leading advertising agency, and caught herself reading a book one day because there was nothing to do. "I thought that was despicable; the job was obviously unnecessary and therefore fairly worthless."

Between long holidays of travelling cheaply around Europe and managing a villa in Greece, she went temping. "I loathed it,

because you can never get stuck into anything, and you always get the feeling that the temps are given the worst jobs." She was saved by a friend pleading with her to go to Virgin Records superstore at Marble Arch, then just opened.

Working up from shopfloor job that had little to do with shorthand and typing but everything to do with selling records, she eventually became Mr Branson's PA 13 years ago. "I don't know how it happened; Richard just suddenly appeared one day and asked if I would like to work for him."

'One call from Richard can wreck my plans for the evening'

It was initially terrifying. "The first thing he asked me to do was to find a band to back Julie Covington, who was singing on Thames TV that night. I hadn't the faintest idea what to do, so I asked him how you found a band. He said he didn't know, I just had to ask around until I found the answer."

Mr Branson, one suspects, knows very well how to assemble a band at a few hours' notice. "Richard is very imaginative, but also very human and down-to-

earth, which encourages you to try that much harder. Also, you know that if you fail to do something, he'll do it himself. And your pride won't let you put up with that."

Dedication to the job has contributed to divorce for Penny. "The hours can be really, really long; you just have to put them in to get the job done. Whatever I have planned for the evening, one call from Richard can wreck it."

Like many PAs in key jobs, Penny rarely travels with her ever-mobile boss. Her job is to hold the fort while the master is absent. But she says she could not now ever work for anyone else. "If I left this job it would be because I wanted children, or to set up my own business — or more likely both at the same time."

To be a successful personal assistant, Penny calculates, requires being very much in tune with the boss. Always be polite, but always make him feel very confident. "And whatever job within a job you are asked to do, always do it, and never feel it is beneath you."

One of the qualities required does not appear to be immaculate shorthand; Penny confesses that hers has declined from 110 words a minute to "a pretty rusty state". She can, on the other hand, boast what must be the ultimate proof of having arrived at the top of the secretarial tree. Penny Pike has two secretaries.



Penny Pike: rarely travels with mobile boss Richard Branson

Males at the terminal

Only 55,000 of Britain's 1.2 million secretaries are male, according to Warwick University's Institute for Employment Research (Joan Venner writes). Leading employment agencies, however, say the number is slowly rising. "I think it's partly office technology," says Pauline Kent, Reed Employment's public relations manager. "Men are more comfortable with the idea of sitting behind a computer terminal than the standard typewriter."

An agency that prefers not to be identified puts forward another reason: "As more women are reaching senior management, the role situation is changing. It is something of a novelty for them to have a male secretary." Males, however, can be intimidated by having a male secretary and may feel awkward because they cannot treat him as they would a woman.

Although the idea of the "office wife" is dying out, there are still men who expect secretaries to buy presents for their wives and collect the dry cleaning. They hesitate to ask another man. Few women would waste their secretaries' time in such a way.

Most male secretaries prefer to temp, though some are persuaded to stay. Men in permanent jobs are usually personal assistants to senior executives. Agencies say that when men take to secretarial work, they are very good.

Some male temps regard secretarial work as a source of finance



Skills: Andrew Ravenscroft for other interests, not as a career. Tim Wright, working for a male consultant at Standard Chartered Bank, says he earns twice as much in temping as he did in programming. His aim is to make enough to enable him to work as a jazz musician in the evenings. One anonymous male, who won a medal in the Royal Society of Arts examination for personal assistants, temped so that he can take off for foreign travel.

Andrew Ravenscroft is now working in the Brook Street Bureau head office after a spell with the National Grid. He has a degree in English, taught himself to type and acquired word-processing skills. "I shan't be doing this long-term," he says. "While I am working I can improve on my existing computer skills. Up to now I have used three or four word-processing packages."

Male temps easily find jobs. They are in demand in Britain and in Continental Europe. Many legal and financial offices in Paris remain open until midnight for business with the United States, and men do the evening shifts.

More secretarial, page 35

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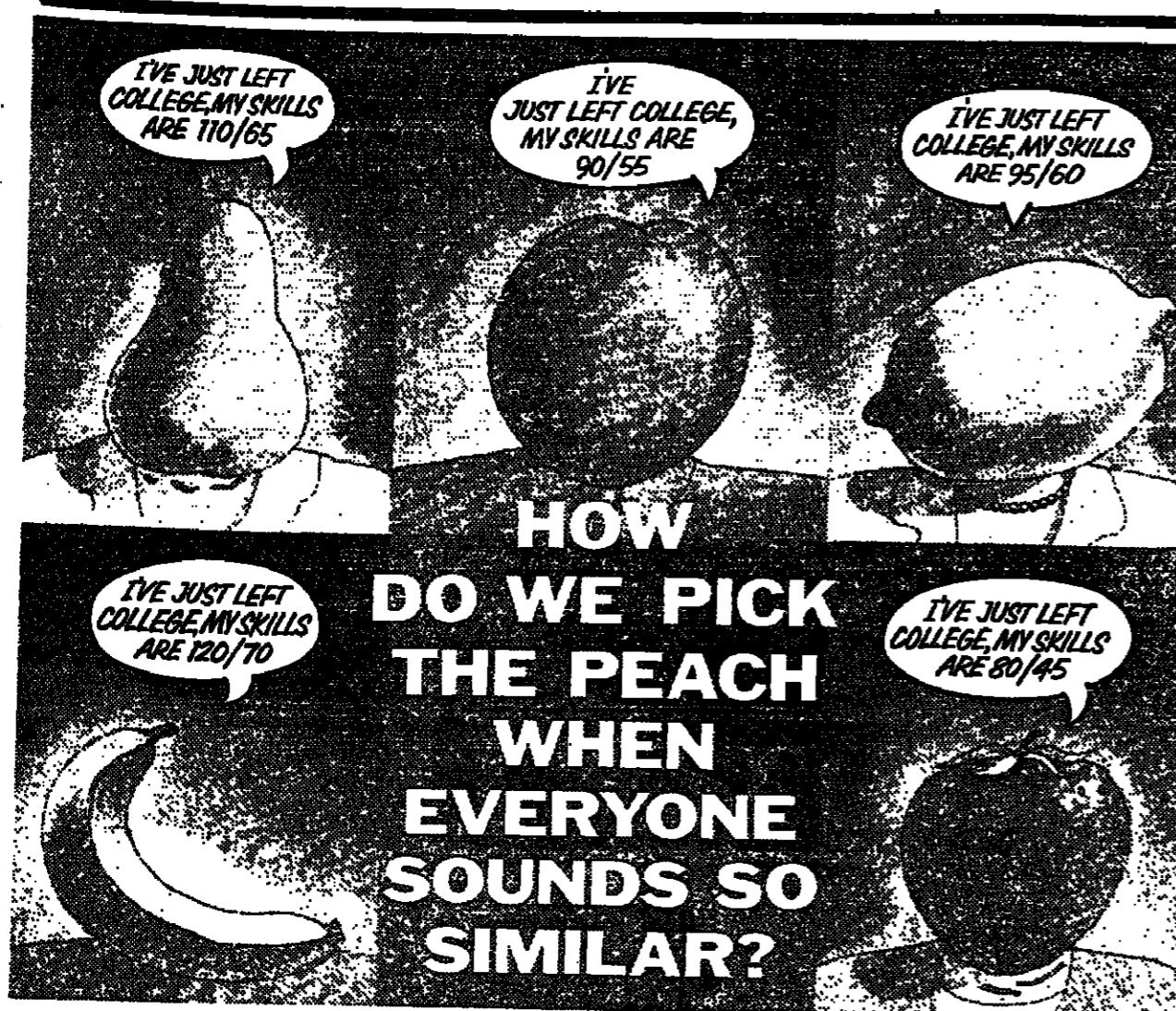
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SECRETARIAL

Job criteria not just £s

Secretaries have a wide selection of job opportunities, writes Beryl Dixon, but which field should a newcomer choose?

Secretaries have never had it so good. It appears from the abundance of job advertisements that applicants are spoilt for choice. There are openings with all kinds of employers for every grade of secretary, from college-leavers - who in London can now command between £20,000 and £11,000 to the top PA earning well in excess of £30,000.

Second-jobbers in particular are in short supply and able to get £14,000-£16,000 with little difficulty.

The shortage of good secretaries means that the well-qualified can now afford to discriminate between employers - who are responding in the main by offering higher salaries and perks. That is fine if those are the applicant's prime considerations. Other employers - who can be worth checking out - are also offering better training and career development.

Many of them provide training in word-processing, use of personal computers and desk-top publishing as a matter of course, while others send their secretaries on courses in time-management.

communications and even assertiveness training - generally a sign that they envisage the job developing into a true PA role or a stepping-stone to management.

What kind of person really has the pick of the job market? Obviously sound technical skills are a must. Good typing and shorthand go without saying. Then comes word-processing. If a secretary is trained in two or more of the most commonly used ones, that is a distinct advantage - although if he or she is suitable in every other aspect, employers will cross-train.

Languages are an asset - but not as great a one as might be expected with 1992 just around the corner. It all depends on individual employers. Some are still rigidly mono-lingual; others are frantically looking for secretaries fluent in other languages. The latter should come to be in greater demand in the next few years. Languages are a particular advantage when applying for some jobs, particularly in property, law and international business.

For the very top jobs, technical skills must be backed by experience plus social and communica-



Word processing: training is a distinct employment advantage

tions skills. And anyone possessing all of the above should be in a buyer's market. On the other hand, some areas are perennially popular. More secretaries want to get into advertising, PR, marketing and the media than into anything else. Competition for employment in such sectors is fierce - and salaries can be lower.

Very few secretaries actually choose a job on salary grounds alone. Location, status, working conditions, and the boss (in few other jobs can the one-to-one relationship involved be quite so crucial) all play a part. But there are some for whom, other things being equal, it comes down to a choice between jobs based on cross-train.

In that case, where are the best paid jobs? Naturally enough, there is a premium in financial services where, according to Crone Corkill, the recruitment agency, the pool of interested, suitable candidates

is smaller and employers have to offer more. Next come property, large law firms and some branches of industry where the image is rather unglamorous. By contrast, a salary survey carried out by the Gordon Yates Group concluded that salaries were generally lower than average in the arts, media and publishing.

In advertising and marketing, salaries were average with interesting variations. These showed that the smaller companies paid their middle managers' secretaries better, while the larger ones paid their senior secretaries higher.

It should not be forgotten that benefits can increase the total salary package considerably. Free meals, season ticket loans, medical insurance and pension schemes all add up, while at current interest rates a subsidized mortgage can be worth from £2,000 to £4,000.

Boss can learn from show

Joan Venner reports on the information to be displayed

Research has shown that secretaries and PAs are responsible for a billion pounds worth of direct business expenditure a year, and are probably a major influence in the expenditure of much more business cash. At the London Secretary Show at Olympia 2, which starts today and runs until Friday, a host of exhibitors will be competing for their custom.

Nick Needs, managing director of Blenheim Pel, which has organized the show, urges secretaries to bring their bosses along. "Our aim," he says, "is not only to provide hands-on experience of up-to-the-minute information and technology and to help secretaries and their bosses to become winning teams, by better understanding of each other's needs, but also to provide a great day out."

So often an executive delegates the running of the office to a top secretary/PA who makes the routine purchasing decisions, is asked an opinion on a new word-processor, sees to the boss's travel arrangements, and arranges the catering for an office party. If this is done well, the PA may ultimately organize official entertaining and company conferences.

Secretaries at the London Secretary Show, in its fourth year, will be able to examine computers and peripherals, and talk to systems manufacturers.

The secretary will have an opportunity to discuss the



Talking shop: secretaries can speak to systems manufacturers

A major change this year is that instead of queuing up, the secretary can pre-book for one of the seminars organized by the Industrial Society and the Institute of Qualified Private Secretaries.

One important seminar will cover the implications of 1992 for secretaries and PAs. Information will also be available about translation services. Other topics will include the boss/secretary relationship, stress management, confidence building, working for a small business versus a large corporation, diplomacy, business travel and finance for women.

Secretary Shows are also to be held in Birmingham (May 26-28), Glasgow (September 11-13), and Manchester (November 6-8). Further details and programmes are available from Blenheim Pel Ltd, Blenheim House, 10 Hill Drive, Pinner HA5 2AE (01 888 9953).

More Secretarial, page 37

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Director's Secretary
West End up to £17K

Our client is a diversified blue chip conglomerate, operating business worldwide. This means extensive travel for the Board Directors, one of whom seeks a Secretary.

He expects you to have the initiative to organise his itineraries and travel. You must have good secretarial skills, including shorthand and accurate audio typing. As well as having a pleasant, mature personality you must be flexible about your working hours.

Their new offices, in a smart West End location, offer excellent working conditions. Starting salary will depend on your qualifications and experience. Benefits include free staff restaurant and contributory pension scheme.

If you can handle this high profile role, call Lisa Booth on 01-439 5782 (01-494 1093 evenings/weekends). Alternatively, send your CV to Austin Knight Selection, 20 Soho Square, London W1A 1DS quoting ref 182/LB/90.

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Director of leading glossy magazine needs a first class PA with excellent s/h to be his ultimate back-up from highly responsible editor. He deals with press, attending meetings and organising functions to the obvious standards. Duties entail working for a friendly busy editor in a fast moving department. The post is available immediately. Age range 20 to 30. £13,000. For further information please contact Emma Roberts on 501 2577 at Jane Crofton Recruitment, 2 Cromwell Place, London SW7 2JE (1 min from St. Jam's tube).

Looking forward to hearing from you.

For further information on our services, please call Margot Winsnes on (01) 823 9233

THE LANGUAGE OF BUSINESS SUCCESS

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR 1992???

With these on the horizon we are looking forward and planning so there will be no border barrier for language barrier. Turn into LBC Radio at 7.15 a.m. on the 3rd of May 1990 and listen to our ideas and suggestions. Also attend our seminar at the London Secretary Show at Olympia on 21 May 1990 at 1.30 p.m. and be one step ahead.

We have a large selection of permanent and temporary positions available for college students and the more experienced. We offer P.A., Business Admin, and languages, whether it is in the Creative World of the Financial World. "We are committed to your success."

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TOP WEST END TV CO PA TO MD £17,000 ++

Prestigious International TV co is looking for a bright young senior level PA with excellent secretarial, organisational and communication skills, along with fluent French.

As the most senior PA in the company, the post will include the smooth running of his office and the supervision of staff. An excellent opportunity to move into a challenging position within a young and lively environment.

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UK subsidiary of a multinational group has the following vacancies:-

BILINGUAL SECRETARY: The MD requires a mature, bright, competent and well presented Secretary, fluent in both French and English. Responsibilities will include day to day handling of general secretarial and PA duties. Knowledge of shorthand and WP is essential.

WP & DTP OPERATOR: Ideal opportunity for a young capable and bright individual who will handle day to day junior secretarial and wordprocessing duties. Knowledge of shorthand is desirable.

Competitive salary o.e.o.

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or fax your CV on 071-603 5533

See £15,000 No shorthand, Computer Co.

Shorthand See £15,000 Computer Co.

Age: 20+ Sales exp. essential

Auto. Sec. £13,000 for Legal Co.

Tel: 071-246 8555 Costs: 80

SECRETARIAL

Europe's gift of tongues

Increasing demand for bilingual secretaries has opened up fresh opportunities abroad for experienced workers with language skills

As 1992 draws closer, most employment agencies say the demand for secretaries with language skills is increasing. One has only to scan the offers on the Crème de la Crème page in *The Times* to see how true this is.

"Everybody is heading towards Europe," says Christine Moscrop, of the Merrow Employment Agency. "The main demand is from French, German and other foreign companies in the UK who have always needed bilingual secretaries with fluent French."

Languages must be at least of graduate standard. For candidates with A levels this means a two-year course, with time spent in the appropriate country.

What has changed is that many British and American companies are beginning to realize that languages are becoming increasingly useful because they have a bigger range of clients."

With takeovers on the Continent and increasing City activity, many legal firms are advertising for people with languages and legal experience. Vacancies far outnumber suitable applicants. Bilingual secretaries are required by firms of all kinds engaged in import/export, by architects, advertising companies, merchant banks and other financial institutions.



Parker-vous français? bilingual secretaries are much in demand as companies gear up for 1992

Spanish students have placements in Spain.

Many students are offered permanent posts by the firms with which they undertake their fieldwork, including Theodore Goddard, the Paris law firm. One recent student is in Germany with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council. Her two bosses, one German and one Chinese, do not speak each other's language, and all communication is in English via their secretary.

Students of German work in offices and banks in Frankfurt, Wiesbaden, Stuttgart and Munich.

While most secretarial jobs with languages are based in London and certain large cities, a spring

king can be found locally in container and import-export firms.

The language content of a bilingual secretary's job, particularly in the UK, is not always as high as the secretary would wish.

But languages are increasingly useful. "Another language," says Mary Overton, senior management adviser with the Industrial Society, "gives you an edge over other secretaries."

Last year, the society held a conference in association with the European Association of Professional Secretaries (EAPS).

New skill gives documents style

Secretaries in the Eighties faced a minefield of acronyms before they could decide whether they had the necessary skills to apply for a new job, let alone do the job (*Geoff Wheelwright* writes). Notices such as "See req. with WP, WS and DOS experience" in temping agencies mystified many.

Just when they thought they had trained themselves in every conceivable new word-processing package and were well on top of the acronyms, along comes another one. The letters are DTP - "desktop publishing".

DTP is the business of using computers to produce newspaper or magazine-quality documents using simple desktop computers and high-quality computer printers.

Anybody able to use a desktop publishing system properly will be able to take a standard report and turn it into something special through the use of headlines, captions, newspaper-style columns and computer graphics.

Using DTP, a lifeless annual report can be presented in the style of a glossy magazine.

There are a few problems, however. Not the least of which is that many employers expect too much too soon, and for too little. Secretaries are often expected to produce "designer" documents without being given any basic grounding in design or typography.

As people in the general business community begin to become

aware of just how good business documents can look using DTP technology, they will begin to demand that it be introduced in their offices.

Here are a few simple words of advice. Use the documentation included with the DTP software. Send key staff on a desktop publishing course and read the course brochures carefully, as some still do not provide any basic design advice.

Employers must understand that desktop publishing a document takes longer than simple word-processing.

Once the design is established, it can often be re-used for future documents and turn-around times can be improved. There are three basic stages to desktop publishing. The first is keying in the text, the second is to establish the basic design. This includes setting up the column widths, headlines and picture placement.

The final step is to place the word-processed text into the desktop publishing system and assign type specifications, enter captions and carry out final proofing of document. The completed document is then printed on to a computer printer, most popularly the "laser" printer.

It may sound simple enough, but desktop publishing will require background and skill. If staff need DTP, employers must make sure they are given the necessary instruction before wading in.

More Secretarial, page 39

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Ideal World

In an ideal world when you are capable, committed and enthusiastic, you'll fulfil your potential and reap the financial rewards. At **Finesse** we work with you to realise this ideal offering the best career opportunities within leading City organisations...

Take the initiative as front line executive PA to the powerful and charismatic Treasury Director of this prominent Merchant Bank. Professionalism and diplomacy are essential as you liaise at the highest level, prepare confidential reports and act as a vital link between the Director and the activities of the dealing room. A newly created role with ideal world potential £80,000-£20,000 package. Specialists for young career secretaries 01-493-7028.

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Best Seller

Brilliant promotional prospects in a "name dropping" environment make this a career your friends will envy! In the high profile world of "popular" publishing you will assist a Director and his award-winning editorial team producing best sellers in health, beauty, music and high fashion. You will coordinate publicity campaigns and book fairs and liaise with authors, designers and illustrators to ensure publishing deadlines are met. In this constantly changing environment a wacky sense of humour and creative spirit are a must. 50wpm typing - £12,000. Specialists for young career secretaries 01-493-7028.

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APPOINTMENTS

WEST END CHARTERED SURVEYORS

require an Audit Secretary for Investment Department. Age 24+. Ability to work on own initiative. Wordperfect 5 preferred. CVs to Maria Franklin, Colliers Stewart Newiss, 20 Conduit St, London W1R 9TD. Telephone 01 493 6010. (No agencies).

ADVERTISING

Fast growing, fast moving direct marketing advertising agency is looking to recruit a junior secretary with wordprocessing skills, capable of dealing with an account team of 4 executives needing her absolute support and experience. She needs to be flexible and capable of dealing with a very busy workload.

Please send your applications enclosing your CV to Cecily Stephens, 41 Great Pulteney Street, London W1R 3DE, telephone 01 434 0644.

A TOP FRENCH FRAGRANCE COMPANY SEEKS A DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY
TO JOIN A HARD WORKING AND LIVELY TEAM, YOU SHOULD HAVE EXCELLENT SHORTHAND AND TYPING SKILLS. YOU MUST BE WELL ORGANISED, MAYBE OFFICE CONTACT: SUE LINDSAY TEL: 01 493 7040

HELP!

Competent but fast-growing creative services company, Mayfair-based, needs SECRETARY/CUM-OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR. An exciting opportunity for someone who is willing and able to take on a multi-faceted self-starter role in a creative environment and ready to grow with the job.

Please apply to: Mrs. Valerie Lomax, 100 New Bond Street, London W1S 7FD.

A CITY SECRETARY IN THE 90's
TOP PACKAGES FOR YOUNG GO AHEAD SECRETARIES

Our prestigious client list, regarded by many to consist of the leading high profile City companies, has been established for 10 years. They acknowledge that much of their success is attributed to the high calibre of secretary they employ. The benefits you can expect are:

- Mortgage benefit worth minimum £3,000
- Christmas bonus
- Profit share
- Sound city training
- Internal promotion
- Young friendly environment
- Interest free season ticket loan
- Free BUPA
- Luncheon vouchers
- Sports and social club

SPECIALISTS FOR THE SECRETARY SECRETARY

If you are in your early 20's and would like further information or career advice please call Deborah Lee or Marianne Hope on 01-872 8887.

MACBLAIN NASH

City

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

KING & TOBIN PROSPECT IN PR

£16,000 (review within 3 months) An exciting opportunity has arisen in a dynamic City PR Co. for a bright 'A' level or graduate for the charming M.D. who will liaise frequently with European (French language useful), be responsible for coordinating VIP meetings and generally be well informed. This is a national department with a team of 10-12, 28-30, good secretarial skills including shorthand, good

Call Jo Toben at King & Tobin Recruitment Consultants on 01-629 9648

KING & TOBIN Tel: 01-629 9648 RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS Finsbury House, 166 Finsbury Lane, London EC2M 9QE

PARLEZ - VOUS FRANÇAIS ?

Available 14 May for a long-term temporary booking? If you have 100/100, English shorthand (French shorthand 60+ useful) and good PA/Secretarial experience, then a French speaking PA with a good telephone and computer skills and a desire to work in a friendly environment so the ability to work as part of a team is essential.

Call Samantha Sharpner for more information.

KING & TOBIN Tel: 01-629 9648 RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS Finsbury House, 166 Finsbury Lane, London EC2M 9QE

KING & TOBIN

GET INTO PR

Busy PR Co. overlooking Piazza in Covent Garden seeks bright young secretary to work for smart happy team. Must be good telephone and computer skills and particularly good at doing some research. Good accurate typing and excellent spelling essential. Salary £21,000 maximum.

Please contact Diana Stevens.

KING & TOBIN Tel: 01-629 9648 RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS Finsbury House, 166 Finsbury Lane, London EC2M 9QE

KING & TOBIN

Superstar £14,000+

The dynamic M.D. of this well-known PR agency needs a real right hand. In your capacity as PA, you will be providing full secretarial and administrative support to a boss with a significant client portfolio. In addition you will be responsible for recruiting secretarial staff, looking after training budgets and booking courses, as well as ensuring the day to day smooth running of a hectic office. This is a demanding role requiring someone with confidence who is looking for the opportunity to take responsibility and use their initiative. Age: 24-35 Skills: 80/60

RECRUITMENT COMPANY

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TOKYO PERSONAL ASSISTANT

REQUIRED TO WORK FOR THE PRESIDENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL FIRM, BASED IN TOKYO.

S'International Architects are an international firm with offices in London, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Sydney and Paris. The President requires an experienced Personal Assistant with executive secretarial skills. Must be able to work on own initiative and have good communication skills. This is a very prestigious role and we require someone who would be extremely committed to this highly demanding and challenging position.

Minimum age 25 years.

Japanese and/or French an advantage but not essential.

Interviews will be held from Tuesday 8 May until Friday 11 May 1990.

Please apply in writing to:

Katrina Heros

S'International Architects

222 Maybole Road, LONDON NW1

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5 GARRICK STREET WC2E 9AR

Roller Coaster £18,000 pkg

Can you cope with the peaks and troughs working as secretary to the delightful Head of Corporate Finance and his two fun loving assistants. From one extreme to the other you'll either be racing through fascinating company research and visit reports from their frequent trips, or using your initiative to keep the department's systems running smoothly. Good O'Levels and typing 50wpm, please call Elizabeth Williamson on 01-256 5018.

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01-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

01-481 4481

Pride in your Work?
£17,000

Eminent charity fundraiser, political adviser and entrepreneurial businessman is looking for a secretary aged 24-34 with high standards.

His dealings with Number Ten, leading figures in the City and media world require a confident telephone manner, faultless presentation and skills of 120/60 (no audio). A sunny personality and a ready smile will ensure his Mayfair based office runs on oiled wheels.

Please telephone Lindsey Brandom on 01-434 4512.

Crone Corkill

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Administration Manager
£17,000+ S.W. area

High profile administration position within this young dynamic training company. Supervisory experience essential (PA/TE experience an advantage). Keyboard literacy a must. Presentation must be impeccable coupled with outgoing personality. Age 30-35. Education O/A levels

Art
Up to £12,500 + benefits

Interested in Modern Art? Work amongst the great names in a friendly environment. Skills 90/50. Lots of involvement. Suit O/A levels. Age 20-25.

Please call 01-629 7262
Graduate Appointments
(Rec. Cons.)

GRADUATE
APPOINTMENTS
7 PRINCES STREET LONDON W1CHALLONERS
RECRUITMENTMAJOR
OIL FIRM
PA
C £15,000

This International petroleum company, based in Mayfair, is looking for a mature, professional PA. You need senior PA experience, coupled with independence and the desire to take charge. Benefits include STI and pension.

Please call Yianoulla Shaw for an appointment on 01-437 9030. 19-23 Oxford Street, London W1.

Business Secretary
£20,000

Our client, a highly successful international engineering group and leaders in their field, is restructuring its London based Chairman's office.

On behalf of the Chairman, we are seeking a Business Secretary with first-class secretarial and organisational skills. The successful candidate will be resilient, diplomatic and committed with experience at Chairman or Chief Executive level in an international plc. Age 40+.

Please telephone Nicolette Agnew on 01-434 4512.

Crone Corkill

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PA with Flair
to £17,000

Newly appointed MD of start-up division of major multinational company needs a PA. His job is to establish policy, build the team and provide leadership.

Starting at 8.30am over a cup of coffee and croissant, you will plan the day together. Getting the division off the ground will involve organising the offices, research and lots of forward planning.

Age 25-35, A levels and good typing required.

Please telephone Jacky Purcell on 01-434 4512.

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The Investors Compensation Scheme, which is administered by the Securities and Investments Board, compensates investors who have lost money as a result of an authorised firm going bust. The staff of the Scheme aim to pay compensation to investors as speedily, with as little formality, and with as much sympathy as possible.

PA Secretary

c£14,500 p.a.

We are looking for a PA Secretary to work for the Chief Executive of this scheme. You should be flexible and have previous experience working at a senior level in a very hectic environment. Your excellent organisational skills and a tactful telephone manner will be used extensively. The successful applicant will have first class secretarial skills, adaptability and initiative gained over at least five years.

Secretary/
Administrator

c£12,000 p.a.

A good all rounder is required to handle this position which is full of variety including lots of telephone work, for which good communication skills are essential, and providing efficient administration support on the computer system. Good secretarial skills are essential. You will be numerate, flexible, computer literate and must be able to shine in this pressurised environment.

Please send a detailed CV indicating which job interests you, to Paulette Levene, Personnel Officer, Securities and Investments Board, 3 Royal Exchange Buildings, London EC3V 3NL by 11th May; 1990.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/
PERSONAL ASSISTANTTo Corporate Vice President,
European Operations

SWITZERLAND

AMP is a highly regarded international market leader in the production of sophisticated and technologically advanced electrical/electronic connection devices.

We are now looking for a career oriented, experienced individual to act as the Personal Assistant/Executive Secretary to the Corporate Vice President in charge of our European Operations who is based at Steinach, St Gallen, Switzerland.

You must have excellent communication skills and organisational abilities along with genuine self-confidence, flexibility and first class secretarial skills. Equally important, however, is your formal business training and high degree of self-motivation. A good command of German would be an advantage, but is not essential.

Apart from a tremendous challenge you will also enjoy a high standard of living in Switzerland, full relocation expenses and an attractive salary.

To apply, please write with your full CV enclosing a recent photograph to Peter Ernsham, AMP of Great Britain Ltd, Merrion Avenue, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 4RS.

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Incorporated£18K FOR
ORGANISED
P.A.

The Chief Executive of an Ealing based Market Research Company needs a reliable and experienced P.A. to whom he can delegate much of the day to day organisational responsibilities.

You will work on your own initiative and be involved in all aspects of the business, making travel arrangements and dealing with correspondence.

If you are an articulate secretary with excellent skills (100/60), looking for a rewarding and involving position, this company needs you now.

Senior Secretaries
173 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9PB
01-499 0092
(Fax: 01-491 7278)
Recruitment Consultants

Aspiring Account Exec?

£12,000

Absolutely brilliant job with excellent prospects! Young, bubbly Covent Garden PR consultancy seeks an articulate self-starter to work with 2 charming people. Fast-paced position organising letters, press releases, maintaining photo library, monitoring the press; co-ordinating shoots, photocalls, handling competition launches — everything from writing and design to delivering the prizes. Heaps of press contact. Languages very useful. An interest in the wine trade a distinct advantage. 18 months and you're a fully-fledged Account Exec. A level education and 50 wpm typing requested. Talk to us today on 01-409 1232.

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OPEN TUESDAYS 'TIL 7PM

£16,000

BUFA, 5 weeks leave, flight discounts, Pension. Arranging internal and external receptions and liaising with top level directors are just part of your challenging role as indispensable assistance to charming executive within this large international company. S/H essential. Call Glynis Ranger

S/H SEC
BUFA, Person, LV, IFSTL. Prestigious international company based in Paddington needs a fun loving, down to earth person to work on a one-to-one basis for the Company Secretary. Organise functions, arrange travel and assist in running the office. Call Barbara Fisher

PA
Rare career opportunity to become the indispensable assistant to busy executive within corporate head office of this international company in Mayfair. Your demanding role includes the change to use your initiative and take on the responsibility for the dept. Call Pam Parries 70-71 New Bond Street, W1 (Oxford St. end) 01-491 0383
Our Fax No for CV's is 01-409 2556

INDISPENSABLE?

£17,000

Exceptional PA/Sec sought by 2 highly successful international design Co's. This demanding role requires a well educated, intelligent person with excellent interpersonal and organisational abilities, together with first rate secretarial skills. Age 25 - 35.

Call 01-423 2552 or Fax your CV to 01-259 6837

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AGENT
requires a
SECRETARY

If you are in your mid twenties, are a non-smoker, have good audio typing, organising skills and an interest in the industry. Write giving brief personal details to

Philip Adler
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Affirmations

SECRETARY
£16,500 + PERKS
AGE 20+

Prestigious City Director seeks secretary/ shorthand/ WP PA with a lively personality, able to handle a range of lots of administrative involvement. Fax CV's on 01-247 1597
Call Mrs Hayes 01-
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AAE £17,000 pa + BENEFITS

As partnerships go, this one could well be perfect for you: a leading, EC3 Legal practice with a go-ahead profile; a hectic boss with a need to delegate a wide variety of personnel and administrative tasks, often highly confidential; and, finally, no need for use of shorthand with a preference for WP/audio skills requested. Why not join forces with a firm that offers a real challenge? Call Ian Archibald on 01-491 1658. La Crème Consultants.

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£12,000 + 2% mortgage
Excellent opportunity for ambitious young Sec with flair and initiative to develop career with leading international Bank. Good WP skills and sense of humour vital. Many perks include generous bonus and health club membership.
Call 01-423 2552 or Fax your CV to 01-259 6837

** "EUROPEAN"
SECRETARY **
£18,000 - £20,000

My client an international organisation with London headquarters are expanding within Europe.

In order to facilitate this operation a first class PA with FLUENT GERMAN is required. ALTHOUGH LONDON BASED, TRAVEL WITHIN EUROPE is a requisite so precedence will be given to individuals without restricting commitments. Shorthand is not essential as the emphasis is on communication and organisational abilities. Aged 25+ you should possess a professional approach with excellent inter-personal skills.

For an initial discussion please telephone: Lyn Baird on 01-688 0558 (24 hrs) Southern Connection. Recruitment Consultants

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AN INTEREST IN COMPUTERS?
WE'LL HELP YOU DEVELOP IT.

The Sales Director of an SW1 based international newsprint producer needs a senior assistant (25-40) with an interest in computers. Your time will be equally divided between administration and secretarial work. You will need to be articulate with good presentation skills as you will be responsible for handling orders and customer queries.

A good all round education will complement your excellent secretarial skills (spreadsheet knowledge an advantage). Salary c£15.5k. Hours 9-5.

Senior Secretaries
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Recruitment Consultants£17k PLUS PRESTIGE PACKAGE FOR
HIGH PROFILE P.A.

An excellent package - including a mortgage subsidy and a bonus - is offered by this S.W.1 based Merchant Bank which specialises in the property field.

This is a prestige position, demanding someone with good social skills, and the other skills it takes to be P.A. to the M.D. - articulacy, good knowledge of London, the presence to attend business meetings (often with Blue Chip Clients), shorthand of 80wpm and an excellent telephone manner. Age: 23-42

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DYNAMIC £16k P.A.

5 WEEKS HOLIDAY
A small and dynamic team in a Canadian Commodities Group need a PA to the MD and two Directors (Age 20's preferred).

The hours are 9-5 and guaranteed to be lively: organising busy executives and making their travel arrangements: using your 90 shorthand and WP skills; and making lots of contacts abroad - languages an asset. The team is growing, the offices are new (and in W.1) - the job is ideal if you have initiative, like the ideal of an international environment and have an excellent telephone manner.

Senior Secretaries
173 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9PB
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Recruitment Consultants

SECRETARY

TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

Head Office, Brentwood
Salary c. £15.000

We are looking for a Secretary for our newly appointed Managing Director — Waste Services.

Applicants should possess excellent presentation, organisational and administrative skills, with proven ability in the full range of secretarial duties including audio and wordprocessing and shorthand. You should also hold RSA Stage II typing or an equivalent qualification.

Cleanaway is the largest Company in its field and offers an attractive salary and conditions of employment, including twenty-five days' annual holiday and Company Pension Scheme membership. It is a first class working environment with a recently refurbished Directors' suite of offices in a modern block.

Please send your CV, quoting reference AK/16/90 on the envelope, to: Albert Keeshan, Personnel Officer, Cleanaway Limited, The Drive, Wixley, Brentwood, Essex CM13 3BE.

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CAREER
CROSSING
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ANGELA MORTIMER

SECRETARIAL

Individual responses to stress and irritation vary. Something which annoys one person may be treated as a challenge by another. Certain sources of stress in the office can, and should, be eliminated, however, if efficient overall performance is not to be affected.

At the London Secretaries Show last year, secretaries were given a list of likely irritations in the office, and asked to state which bothered them most.

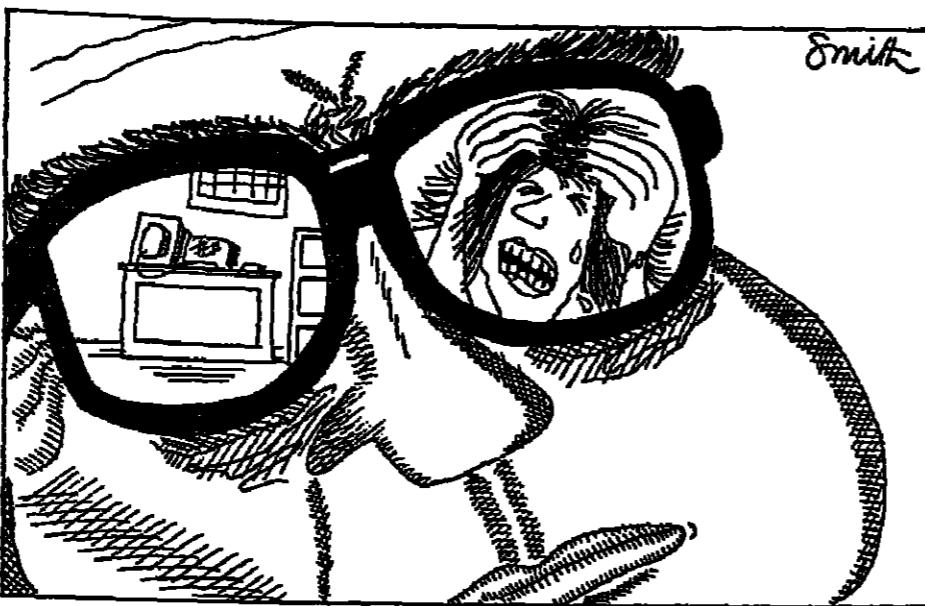
When the responses were analysed, the four top irritations were: constantly being interrupted when they were busy, finding the photocopier jammed or out of paper, trying to fix meetings with people who did not keep their diaries up to date, and being given urgent work just as they were about to go home.

Ginny Tate, of Tate Appointments, agrees with the list. "Some bosses do not plan their day. The secretary may sit doing little from nine to three and then there is a mad rush from three to eight."

"A second secretary may work with a group of bosses. Sometimes she is faced with ten urgent demands and sometimes with nothing. Of course, she ought to be the one to get them together to establish a system of priorities."

At the very base of the list of irritations came sexual harassment. Much has appeared about this in the Press, but Rita Betts, of the Institute of Qualified Private Secretaries, says she has never known a secretary who experienced this form of harassment.

If a secretary is to be happy at work, the attitude of the



good understanding of each other's role. Managers rarely have a chance to be trained to use a secretary effectively. The secretary should tell her manager what she can do. The two should be constantly talking and trying to iron out problems. They have got to identify all the things that waste time."

She says that secretaries should be working with their managers and not for them. Secretaries need information, and the most obvious way of getting information is by asking the manager.

Secretaries often tell her: "But he is always so busy." They must, she maintains, learn to be more confident and assertive. Most managers say: "If only secretaries would tell us when they see problems ahead rather than make excuses afterwards for things they have not done."

Many environmental stresses, the Reed survey found, stem from lack of thought and foresight on the part of the employer. Of course, some, such as heating, can be expensive to put right, but other problems are more simply solved.

The secretary should not, however, leave everything to the employer. She can help herself by ensuring that the VDU screen is positioned at a 90-degree angle to the window or source of direct light and by taking frequent short breaks away from the screen. This should prevent wrist strain as well as easing visual stress. If the chair causes backache, the secretary should complain and ask for a replacement. Surely this is better than walking out of the job without saying why?

It all comes down to communication and having a

boss is crucial. Failure to delegate can be a common source of grievance. Many bosses insist on dealing with their secretaries, and some left to their secretaries, and some refuse to accept that their secretaries can do more than answer the telephone, take down dictation and make coffee. "I have always done it this way," they maintain.

Tension can also be generated through a poor office environment, by such factors as poor lighting, faulty heating and air-conditioning, flickering

VDU screens, badly designed chairs, and noise from office equipment and phones.

When Reed Employment

commissioned a survey on the office environment and its effect on staff, 55 per cent of those interviewed described their job as "very stressful" or "quite stressful".

They complained of lighting

which gave them headaches,

glare from VDU screens, drab

surroundings, backache

caused by chairs with poor

support, and sleepiness from

overheated offices.

Talk eases the tension

Communication between boss and employee is at the heart of a profitable solution to office stress, Joan Venner writes

الرجل المعاصر

Age of the techno-shock

Anyone returning to office work after even a few years' absence may find their experience transformed by new office technologies (*Geoff Wheelwright writes*). Typewriters have been replaced by word-processors, terminals have evolved into personal computers, and simple telephones have been developed into telecommunications terminals.

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Today's office: Word-processors replace the typewriters

board is much the same as a typewriter's and the instructions, while complicated, are common sense. A word-processor can be anything from a typewriter with a few additional facilities to a complete computer with screen and computer printer.

Typewriters now often include either flat liquid crystal display screens or television-style, full-blown cathode ray tubes, spell-checking facilities, a built-in Thesaurus and even computer disc-drives. These facilities are included on the new range of machines offered by Smith Corona, the typewriter manufacturer.

The office photocopier has also been evolving. Many are much smaller, but have more facilities. Reducing, enlarging, copying on both sides and even colour photocopying are common options with mainstream photocopiers.

Meanwhile, switchboards and telephone systems have begun to take on the appearance of computer terminals.

Modern telephone systems may come with a screen that tells the operator who is on the telephone, allows them to check information on personal diaries so that appointments can be booked, and to send telephone messages via computerized "electronic mail" systems.

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The secretary will be fully involved and need to become familiar with a wide range of issues.

That involvement, coupled with good shorthand, will enable the secretary to produce concise minutes and action notes from meetings attended at various locations.

The post is both demanding and interesting and effective effort will be well rewarded.

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c.£13,000 (Pay award pending)
(Maternity leave cover
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A secretarial background is essential as excellent Audio/WP skills are required (minimum 60 wpm, preferably on Wang VS) together with a knowledge of computer databases and a flexible approach to work and the ability to maintain high standards under deadline pressure.

We wish you to start early June for a hand over period (the permanent postholder expects to go on maternity leave at the end of June). You will have the opportunity to apply for permanent positions advertised, at the end of the 6 month period.

Interested applicants are welcome to contact Liz Kwok on 071-320 5738, current postholder, for more information.

Please send full CV and covering letter to the Personnel Manager, The Law Society, 112 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL. Closing date for applications is Friday 11th May 1990.

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Offices near Geneva. 5,500 sq m. Walked distance with Genève/Grenoble beginning 180m. City in need of renovation. 200m² of office space. 200m² of beautiful 2nd floor offices. 200m² of ground floor offices. 200m² of 1st floor offices. 200m² of 2nd floor offices. 200m² of 3rd floor offices. 200m² of 4th floor offices. 200m² of 5th floor offices. 200m² of 6th floor offices. 200m² of 7th floor offices. 200m² of 8th floor offices. 200m² of 9th floor offices. 200m² of 10th floor offices. 200m² of 11th floor offices. 200m² of 12th floor offices. 200m² of 13th floor offices. 200m² of 14th floor offices. 200m² of 15th floor offices. 200m² of 16th floor offices. 200m² of 17th floor offices. 200m² of 18th floor offices. 200m² of 19th floor offices. 200m² of 20th floor offices. 200m² of 21st floor offices. 200m² of 22nd floor offices. 200m² of 23rd floor offices. 200m² of 24th floor offices. 200m² of 25th floor offices. 200m² of 26th floor offices. 200m² of 27th floor offices. 200m² of 28th floor offices. 200m² of 29th floor offices. 200m² of 30th floor offices. 200m² of 31st floor 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Flattening the critics with facts

Under Charles Hughes, the Football

Association's national director of coaching and education, England's pattern of play seemed cast in the long-ball game. In the first of a three-part series, Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent, discovers that, while Hughes does favour a direct method, his statistical analyses reveal a more cultured approach

Chales Hughes, the Football Association's national director of coaching, this week took on some of his sternest critics in the media. He was prepared to meet those armed with poison pens because he knew he would win. He had the indisputable facts to support his case.

Although few outsiders have been familiar with his philosophy, he has regularly been accused of promoting the long-ball game. The vision of the future was potentially chilling. He could, in his authoritative position, be pushing the nation's finest young talent towards a version of football which is designed for the deficient, the limited and the unimaginative.

The implications were particularly grotesque because Graham Taylor, another supposed supporter of the wretchedly tedious style, is regarded as the favourite to succeed Bobby Robson as England manager. It did not take a soothsayer to see that even the national representatives might soon be running around Wembley with all the purpose of over-size headless chickens.

To the relief of those who attended a seminar lasting four hours, Hughes presented prolonged visual and verbal evidence which confirmed that his beliefs have been portrayed erroneously. He had the figures, almost too many figures, to prove that he thinks positively along altogether more cultured lines.

Instead of breeding giants to prop the ball into the stratosphere and physically to batter opponents into submission when and when it lands, England's youth are being taught a more sophisticated and, as he explained in minute detail, the most efficient system of direct play. He calls it "the winning formula".

It is based on a statistical examination of the modern game's most successful sides. Through films of 109 World Cup ties staged between 1966 and 1986, he pinpointed precisely how Argentina, Brazil, England, Italy, Netherlands and West Germany, scored their goals. He also included in his survey a random selection of Liverpool's fixtures from 1984 to 1988.

Some of the results are a revelation. It is widely held, for instance, that the most productive crosses are delivered from the byline. Yet, Hughes shows that many more goals were scored in those matches from early crosses which were driven towards the back of the defence.

Since other myths have been perpetuated, he claims that football throughout the world has been heading in the wrong direction for 30 years. Players have been indulging

increasingly in the possession game (which he defines as a move of six or more passes) rather than in direct play (a move of fewer than six).

Direct play is seven times more likely to produce a goal and the more important the game, the more likely the play will be successful. An astonishing fact emphasizes the point. In the six finals of the World Cup spanning the two decades, in a sample used to corroborate the evidence, only two of the 27 goals were devised through the possession game.

The other principal misconception is that the best method of defence is to retreat. It is not. Pushing up or "pressing" as it is known, significantly increases the chances of regaining possession in advantageous areas. "The further you drop back," Hughes says, "the further you are distancing yourself from victory."

Sides who win the ball back in their opponents' third of the pitch are, respectively, four and seven times more likely to score than if they did so in midfield or in their own third. The two strategies — of direct play in attack and pressing in defence — are fundamental to Hughes's philosophy.

They are, he says, also natural. "If you watch children in the park, they don't want to build up. They prefer to run with the ball, dribble or shoot. They want to get the ball back where they lost it. Their instincts are entirely compatible with these statistics.

"But coaches have taught them other ways and the game has declined in terms of goals [the average of 5.4 a game in the 1954 World Cup has dropped alarmingly by more than 50 per cent to only 2.5 in 1986], enjoyment and fun. Our task is to redress the balance and equip players with the best technique."

Hughes put his theories into practice as the manager of the England amateur, Olympic and under-16 teams in the Sixties and Seventies. His record of 13 defeats in 85 matches was, in his own words, "not bad". He is now using his vast experience to educate the youngsters.

"We are sometimes accused of over-coaching but our best youths are playing 150 games a season and, because they are bound to be natural athletes, they will be involved in other sports as well. There isn't time to coach them, let alone over-coach them. They are burning themselves out."

He provided a frightening illustration of his statement. Of the 16 boys chosen for the FA's School of Excellence next September, no



Facts at his fingertips: Hughes presents a tightly-argued case to support his theories about football

CHARLES HUGHES

Born: May 7, 1933.
Educated: Catherne Grammar School.
Career: National Service, RAF. Assistant physical education master, Brightmet, Bolton, 1956-1957; Assistant PE master, Whitecroft Road Secondary School, Bolton, 1957-1960; PE, Leigh Grammar School, 1960-1963; Assistant director of coaching and Football Association, 1964-1989. Manager of England amateur and Olympic teams, 1964-1974. National director of coaching and education, 1989.

"I told him that, if we win 10 corners and all of them are swing to the near post, we are likely to score. Don't put Butcher in there. Keep the opposition expecting something else. Barnes should be the target. He is a good leaper and can touch the ball on."

He also stressed the value of the instant strike. Including headers but excluding free kicks and penalties, almost three in four goals were scored without first controlling the ball. "When Gary Lineker is playing well, he shoots first time. Remember the World Cup in 1986? When

he's not, he takes two or three touches."

A self-confessed purist who admires Liverpool as a team and Gascoigne as an individual, Hughes refused to dissociate himself from the long-ball game. His critics, by now disarmed, stirred but only momentarily. "That would mean I've been associated with it and I never have." He conceded, though, that both he and Taylor have modified their approach.

He caused even greater con-

cernation recently when he was reported to have told American coaches that "Brazil have got it all wrong". He has no misgivings about their technique. "It is marvellous but they haven't won the World Cup since 1970. If they applied the right strategies, we would all be in trouble. So why publicly offer them hints in his comprehensive book, *The Winning Formula*?" It is terribly important to win the World Cup," he replied. "But it is equally important that football should be vibrant. Someone will be lucky enough to win the tournament in July but the 24 teams are there to take part in a festival." He could not, in conclusion, have been more reassuring.

• *The Winning Formula* (Collins, £9.95), by Charles Hughes.

TOMORROW

Strategies: why direct play is incomparably more efficient than the possession game

SCHOOLS CRICKET

Whittington welcomes the arrival of summer

By George Chesterton

FOR the second year running, April fixtures have been blessed with summer weather, but it is not merely for the weather that Jonathan Whittington will remember Eton's meeting with St Edward's. St Edward's batted with reasonable comfort to 57 for two, when Whittington was brought into the attack. Bowling slow left-arm, in a spell of 7.3 overs, of which four were maidens, he demolished St Edward's, taking eight for three. Eton found no difficulty in making the runs for the loss of only one wicket.

There was less interest when Harrow travelled to Winchester. The visiting team made its way to 50 for nine before declaring at tea. The Wiltshire team made a dart for the runs, but lost too many wickets and settled for a draw at 103 for eight.

Repton won handsomely in midweek, Paulet making 105

172 for seven.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

SQUASH RACKETS

Robertson's long wait over

From Colin McQuillan, Karlsruhe, West Germany

CHRIS Robertson, of Australia, promoted for the first time to No. 3 in the May world ranking list, celebrated yesterday by defeating Chris Dittmar 15-10, 10-15, 15-6, 15-6 in the 76-minute final of the Hi-Tec European Open.

Dittmar, also Australian, was ranked world No. 3 until zeroed out by the International Squash Players Association for missing a grand prix final.

He feels that the seeds sown at the School of Excellence will not fully bear fruit until the 1994 World Cup. Hughes plays a part in the national team, in advising Bobby Robson

to how to sharpen the attack.

"I told him that, if we win 10 corners and all of them are swing to the near post, we are likely to score. Don't put Butcher in there. Keep the opposition expecting something else. Barnes should be the target. He is a good leaper and can touch the ball on."

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SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

Raising funds with the aid of a flexible friend

By Jane Wyatt

THE British Sports Association for the Disabled (BSAD) has become the latest charity to try to benefit from the credit boom. The association, in conjunction with the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI), has launched a "new financial package". In other words, a credit card.

Officials of BSAD hope that the card will raise more than £1 million over three years. The impressive image created by the accompanying promotional literature demonstrates how far the association has come in meeting the fund-raising challenge.

This kind of support card is becoming increasingly popular and BCCI alone already offers 14 other charity cards.

Subscribers can choose between two repayment schemes. They can opt either to have a free card and pay the standard monthly interest rate of 1.9 per

cent (APR 25.3 per cent), or make an annual payment of £6 per 1.7 per cent (APR 22.4 per cent). BSAD benefits by £5 the first time the card is used, and thereafter by 25p for each £100 spent.

The picture on the card features Duncan Goodwin, an avid supporter of BSAD, watched by a wheelchair athlete,

Julia Fernandez, aged 15, a student at the Lord Mayor Treloar College, Alton, Hampshire.

Age was no barrier at the Deerness Leisure Centre at Durham when Frank Davison, aged 71, from Newcastle, who has

been bowling for 47 years, won the Open wheelchair event.

Pat Mace, from Redditch (Group 1, wheelchair user with upper arm disorder), who is only 15, was voted bowler of the championship. He bowls from an electric wheelchair using guttering to place the bowl.

RUGBY UNION

Bath pick quartet of newcomers to cup final cauldron

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

WITHEY has spent most of his career with the club in the shadow of a bevy of international back-row players, but has now forced his way ahead of Simpson, in the absence of Hall, because of suspension. Blackett, the wing, who has played more games than most for the first XV this season, also finds himself edged out by the raw speed and power of Adebayo, the Swansea

University. Both, who trained on Monday and yesterday, will have their concluding session today, as will Gloucester, whose XV includes four survivors from their last appearance in the final: the only drawn match since the knockout competition began, against Moseley in 1982, when Mogg, Preedy, Gadd and Teague all played. Mogg's experience also extends to the 1978 final, when he scored the try that helped beat Leicester 6-3.

BATH: J. Calvert; A. Swift, S. Halliday, J. Adebayo, S. Barnes, R. Hill; V. Ubogu, G. Dave, G. Hall, A. F. Hall, N. Chilcott, R. Hall, K. H. D. Exeter; GLOUCESTER: T. Smith, D. Morgan, D. Caskie, R. Mogg, J. Breeze; M. Hamer, M. Hamerford, P. Preedy, G. Dunn, P. Pascal, J. Teague, N. Somers, J. Bratt, T. Smith, N. Treador.

Wasps are worthy league champions

By David Hands

TONY Jorden, the former England full-back, who, with Rob Andrew, shares the winning digits at Wasps, is still coming to terms with his club's remarkable success in winning the Courage Clubs Championship at the last gasp. "After November, our league season was over; after January, our cup season was over, too, but we decided to try to keep winning our remaining league matches in the hope of coming second," he said.

It would be too easy to suggest that Wasps won the league last weekend by the failure of others. There is an element of truth in that, but that is the nature of league competition and it does no credit to players, coaches or administrators at Sudbury, who have sustained a playing standard over the last five years.

Now that Wasps have broken their duck in the matter of important trophies, they will have to discover whether they have the ability and the character to ride the extra effort opponents will make to upset the champions.

In that respect, they are likely to have most of this season's squad available, as well as the sound base which their colts have provided. It is of more than passing interest that Wasps, whose colts beat Agen, the French junior champions, 15-11 on Sunday, was the venue last month for a meeting of 13 clubs, including eight from this season's first division, who would like to see the formation next season of a colts league. The Rugby Football Union's competitions sub-committee will debate the proposition on May 17.

A successful colts team enables clubs to plan with greater confidence and Wasps score

NETBALL

Five-team duel in play-offs

By Louise Taylor

THE month of May is play-off time. Just as footballers the length and breadth of England are preparing for a money-spinning version of Russian roulette, so the five teams that find themselves competing for two vacancies in the second division of the PES English Counties League.

With South Staffordshire, who finished bottom, already relegated, Derbyshire, who finished one place above them, will attempt to defend their status at the Birmingham Sports Centre on Saturday, by the end of the challenges posed by West Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Humber and Mid-Hampshire, who finished as winners of the four regional divisions.

While there will be two winners in Birmingham, there were three in Nottingham last weekend at the finals of the national youth tournament, for teams playing at under-16, under-18 and under-21 level.

This competition, previously sponsored by Barclays Bank, is presently seeking a new backer.

At under-16 level, Tumford, of Hertfordshire, beat Birmingham Athletic Institute 9-8, with Hertfordshire, Surrey and Sundale, from Sunderland, the losing semi-finalists.

The Manchester team, Ducie, took the under-18 event by beating Essex Wanderers 15-11. The Manchester YWCA and Kent County were the beaten teams at the semi-final stage.

In the under-21 tournament, Downs of Surrey, winners of the under-18 trophy for the past two years, beat New Campbell, from Essex, by 12-6 with Plades (Kent) and OPA (Essex) falling at the semi-final hurdle.

The Rivermead Leisure Centre in Reading staged the semi-final of the national clubs' competition in which New Campbell and Hertfordshire 54-53 and Linden overcame Harborough 49-36 in the match between two Birmingham teams. Linden and New Campbell will meet in the final in Manchester on May 12.

On the international stage, New Zealand have taken a 3-0 lead over Jamaica in the Milo series. The final match will be played tonight.

Greaves offers a welcome acid drop

THE Scots continue to take over what used to be a Sassenach empire. Managing football clubs, leading trade unions, and forecasting the weather was not enough for them. In eight days two rawboned representatives of the breed won the London marathon and the Embassy marathon and the British snooker championship (are there other world championships?).

Snooker is ideal for television and, as usual, made pleasant viewing. This is a game even athletic under-achievers can play. Everyone can identify with the experts. The clear-cut tactical patterns, within a confined area, are so easy to follow that there is little need for explanatory comment, and the commentators, to their credit, do not go out of their way to make an easy job difficult.

Most of the time, we were permitted to watch the game in a silence broken only by the click of the balls and the voice of the marker calling the score. The ambience was as ritualistic as that of a church service. The commentators, mute unless they had something to say, were confidential, almost reverential, in their pointed but sparing asides. They could hardly have done the job better.

This failure to bring the players alive as people also came to mind during the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final (BBC1, Saturday) and the Littlewoods Cup final (ITV, Sunday

Sasaki to strengthen Derby claims

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

IN THE absence of the suspended Walter Swinburn, Steve Cauthen will ride Sasaki, whose name features very prominently in ante-post betting on the Derby, in the White Rose Stakes at Ascot this afternoon.

When discussing this half-brother to Shearwell, who finished third in Teesside's Derby, Michael Stoute, his trainer, has always said that, following a bloodless coup at Leicester last autumn, Sasaki's second race would be much more informative and that he would not even contemplate running him until the moment was right. This then is the occasion.

As far as today's opposition is concerned, Stoute will have been heartened by two happenings at Sandown over the weekend. Firstly, Farm Street's Wood Ditton Stakes form began to look vulnerable after Tamone Dancer, the winner, had been eclipsed by Saumarez.

Then Karinga Bay, the conqueror of Marquetry at Newbury last August, finished a long way behind Rock Hopper, Sasaki's stable companion, in the classic trial on Saturday.

Bearing those points in mind, Sasaki must win today's race and win it well if he is to



Willie Jarvis: trains the speedy Grey Rooster

maintain his position in the Derby market. I take him to do just that.

In going for Glacial Storm to win the Insulphak Sagaro EBF Stakes, I am unswayed by the fact that John Hammond,

his English-born but Chantilly-based trainer, has deemed it worth their while making the crossing from France.

When trained at Manton by Barry Hills, Glacial Storm was a good horse, being placed in both the Derby and Irish Derby. As a four-year-old, he did not win but nevertheless ran well on most occasions.

Given the right race conditions and a change of scenario, Glacial Storm duly came good at Longchamp last month when he won the Prix de Barbeville. In that sort of form, he should be capable of giving weight to both Double Dutch and Teamster, who are both basically handicappers, good ones.

In the Insulphak Victoria Cup, none boasts a better

chance than Hard To Figure following that easy win over the same distance at Epsom last week. His West Country trainer, Ron Hodges, is the first to agree that, after winning by five lengths there, it is better to go for today's lottery with a fifth penalty rather than wait to be reassessed.

Interestingly that was Hard To Figure's first attempt at today's distance. It proved a resounding success after a career basically spent sprinting.

It is to the sprinters, albeit the younger ones, that I turn for today's best bet and to Grey Rooster in particular, who is napped to win the Carter Graduation Stakes.

At Newmarket a fortnight ago the Heath was buzzing with the information that the

Willie Jarvis-trained two-year-old had looked a certain early winner in his preparatory work. And so it proved.

Despite running green, Grey Rooster still beat Democratic more comfortably than the judge's verdict of a length might have indicated. At Sandown last Saturday, the runner-up did not let the form down when a very close third to Lear Leader.

Even on worse terms, I take Grey Rooster to beat Sylva Honda, who finished third behind him at Newmarket, along with the three other previous winners in the field.

On the jumping front at Cheltenham, I particularly like the look of Dare Hanse's chance in the Audi Parts and Service Hunter Chase.

At Newmarket a fortnight ago the Heath was buzzing with the information that the

Ascotalmoor to frank Times chance

By Brian Beel

POINT-TO-POINT enthusiasts will flock to Cheltenham this evening for the all hunter chase card, a meeting which traditionally favours the bookmaker.

Over the last 10 years, favourites have had a very poor record here but it will be surprising if Toffee Apple does not get backers off to a winning start in the Belfast Novices' Hunt Chase.

As Bruchill Boy is unproven on firm going and Border Sun is disappointed in the Lady Dudley Cup, Sweet Rascal, despite his lacklustre performance last time at Chepstow, is given the best chance.

After his success in the four-mile race at the Heythrop a

over the stiffer fences, Sweet Rascal has won at the corresponding meeting for the last two years and is a Bruchill Boy and Border Sun as his main opponents in the Champagne Pipe Heidsieck United Hunts Cup.

As Bruchill Boy is unproven on firm going and Border Sun disappointed in the Lady Dudley Cup, Sweet Rascal, despite his lacklustre performance last time at Chepstow, is given the best chance.

After his success in the four-mile race at the Heythrop a

month ago, another of last year's winners at this meeting, Polar Glen, has surprisingly been nominated for the shorter of two possible distances.

Tarteve is again travelling from Northumberland to contest the Audi Parts and Service Hunter Chase, over four miles, a race which he won last year. Epsom Lad may prove the best value.

The Audi Grand Prix de Chasse is the most competitive race on the card. Beech Grove should go well but Ascotalmoor, a leading contender for The Times Championship Final

at Towcester later this month, is as good as any.

Tarteve is again travelling from Northumberland to contest the Audi Parts and Service Hunter Chase, over four miles, a race which he won last year. Epsom Lad may prove the best value.

In the two-mile Overybury Hunter Chase, Sweet Rascal has twice had his chance in previous years and not taken it. The Ascot winner, Buckhorn, is my idea of the banker bet of the evening.

ASCOT

Selections

By Mandarin

2.00 Azadeh.
2.30 Glacial Storm.
3.05 Sasaki.
3.40 Hard To Figure.
4.10 GREY ROOSTER (nap).
4.40 Carmagnole.

By Michael Seely

2.30 Glacial Storm. 3.40 HARD TO FIGURE (nap). 4.10 Grey Rooster. The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.40 HARD TO FIGURE.

Going: good to firm **Draw: 5f-1m straight, low numbers best**

2.0 INSULPAK STAKES (Group 3): 3-Y-O fillies: 28,382: 1m str (5 runners)

1st 1-2 AZADEH (D.F) J Brody G Harwood 9-3
2nd 3-1 SAMBOVA 13 (D.S) (Shelch Mohamed) I Balding 9-3
3rd 5-1 ALYAMAHIN (H Al-Maktoum) P Watson 6-11
4th 6-5 ORIENTAL MYSTIQUE 16 (D.F) (R Sangster) B Hills 8-11
5th 7-2 RIVER STARS 11 (D.S) (P Cole) C Britton 7-11

BETTING: 4-5 Azadeh, 5-1 River Stars, 6-1 Oriental Mystery, 7-1 Sambova, 10-1 Alyamahin.

1989 CHAMPAGNE DUNOVA 6-3 M (25-1) H Codd 9 runs

FORM FOCUS AZADEH (D.F) has run out a comfortable 5f winner from hidden in a 15-runner maiden at Leicester (1m, good to firm on her only start). She is well beaten in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm) and is open to plenty of improvement.

SAMBOVA made a winning reappearance when running on only her second race, to finish 2nd in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm). She looks certain to have benefited for the run and is a good bet for the 45-60.

SELECTOR: AZADEH.

2.30 INSULPAK SAGARO EBF STAKES (Group 3): 230,940: 2m (7 runners)

1st 1-2 GLACIAL STORM 24 (F.G) (D Thompson) J Hammond 9-0
2nd 3-1 TETRIS 176 (D.F) (J Brody) G Harwood 9-3
3rd 5-1 SAMBOVA 13 (D.S) (Shelch Mohamed) I Balding 9-3
4th 6-5 ORIENTAL MYSTIQUE 16 (D.F) (R Sangster) B Hills 8-11
5th 7-2 RIVER STARS 11 (D.S) (P Cole) C Britton 7-11

BETTING: 4-5 Glacial Storm, 7-2 Tetriss, 4-1 Glacial Storm, 8-1 Sambova, 10-1 Insulpak Sagaro.

1989 TRAVEL MYSTERY 6-6-6 R Crookham (5-1) M Pipe 10 ran

FORM FOCUS GLACIAL STORM (D.F) has had a winning re-appearance with a nose success from Tetriss in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm on her only start). She is well beaten in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm) and is open to plenty of improvement.

SAMBOVA made a winning reappearance when running on only her second race, to finish 2nd in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm). She looks certain to have benefited for the run and is a good bet for the 45-60.

SELECTOR: GLACIAL STORM.

3.5 WHITE ROSE STAKES (3-Y-O): 29,050: 1m 2f (5 runners)

1st 1-2 MARCHETRY 264 (F) (K Abdulla) G Harwood 9-0
2nd 3-1 SAKARI 197 (F) (Shelch Mohamed) M Stoute 9-0
3rd 5-1 STARSTREAK 14 (F) (Shelch Mohamed) P Cole 9-0
4th 6-2 FARM STREET 14 (F) (Shelch Mohamed) B Hills 8-11
5th 7-2 MARCHETRY 264 (F) (K Abdulla) G Harwood 9-0

BETTING: 4-7 Sasaki, 5-1 Farm Street, 6-1 Marchetry, 7-1 Sakari, 10-1 Starstreak.

1989 ZALAZZ 9-7 S Cauthen 11 (H) Codd 5 ran

FORM FOCUS MARCHETRY (F) made a winning re-appearance with a nose success from Starstreak in a 16-runner maiden at Salisbury (7f, good to firm on her only start). She is well beaten in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm) and is open to plenty of improvement.

SAKARI (F) has run out a 5f winner from hidden in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm). She looks certain to have benefited for the run and is a good bet for the 45-60.

SELECTOR: MARCHETRY.

4.15 CHAMPAGNE PIPER HEIDSIECK UNITED HUNTS HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs): 22,384: 2m 4f (5 runners)

1st 1-2 FLYING X-RAY 480 (D Parker) D Parker 11-20
2nd 3-1 GODDESS STATE 14 (D.F) (J Brody) G Harwood 9-3
3rd 5-1 PEGASUS FLEET 25 (P Duzey) P Duzey 9-12
4th 6-2 MARCHETRY 264 (M) (K Abdulla) G Harwood 9-0
5th 7-2 SPARKLING LORD 400 (D James) B Hills 12-20

BETTING: 4-2 Flying X-Ray, 5-2 Goddess State, 6-1 Marchetry, 7-2 Sparkling Lord.

1989 SCOTCH ON THE ROCK 10-11-7 Miss J Pidgeon 7-1 G Pidgeon 19 ran

FORM FOCUS MARCHETRY (F) has run out a 5f winner from hidden in a 16-runner maiden at Salisbury (7f, good to firm on her only start). She is well beaten in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm) and is open to plenty of improvement.

SPARKLING LORD (M) has run out a 5f winner from hidden in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm). She looks certain to have benefited for the run and is a good bet for the 45-60.

SELECTOR: MARCHETRY.

5.0 BELSTAFF NOVICES HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs): 22,022: 2m 4f (12 runners)

1st 1-2 FLYING X-RAY 480 (D Parker) D Parker 11-20
2nd 3-1 GODDESS STATE 14 (D.F) (J Brody) G Harwood 9-3
3rd 5-1 PEGASUS FLEET 25 (P Duzey) P Duzey 9-12
4th 6-2 MARCHETRY 264 (M) (K Abdulla) G Harwood 9-0
5th 7-2 SPARKLING LORD 400 (D James) B Hills 12-20

BETTING: 4-2 Flying X-Ray, 5-2 Goddess State, 6-1 Marchetry, 7-2 Sparkling Lord.

1989 SWEET RASCAL 10-11-2 M T Jones 11-4 M Clutterbuck 19 ran

FORM FOCUS MARCHETRY (F) has run out a 5f winner from hidden in a 16-runner maiden at Salisbury (7f, good to firm on her only start). She is well beaten in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm) and is open to plenty of improvement.

SPARKLING LORD (M) has run out a 5f winner from hidden in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm). She looks certain to have benefited for the run and is a good bet for the 45-60.

SELECTOR: MARCHETRY.

5.5 BELSTAFF NOVICES HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs): 22,022: 2m 4f (12 runners)

1st 1-2 FLYING X-RAY 480 (D Parker) D Parker 11-20
2nd 3-1 GODDESS STATE 14 (D.F) (J Brody) G Harwood 9-3
3rd 5-1 PEGASUS FLEET 25 (P Duzey) P Duzey 9-12
4th 6-2 MARCHETRY 264 (M) (K Abdulla) G Harwood 9-0
5th 7-2 SPARKLING LORD 400 (D James) B Hills 12-20

BETTING: 4-2 Flying X-Ray, 5-2 Goddess State, 6-1 Marchetry, 7-2 Sparkling Lord.

1989 SCOTCH ON THE ROCK 10-11-7 Miss J Pidgeon 7-1 G Pidgeon 19 ran

FORM FOCUS MARCHETRY (F) has run out a 5f winner from hidden in a 16-runner maiden at Salisbury (7f, good to firm on her only start). She is well beaten in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm) and is open to plenty of improvement.

SPARKLING LORD (M) has run out a 5f winner from hidden in a 16-runner maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm). She looks certain to have benefited for the run and is a good bet for the 45-60.

SELECTOR: MARCHETRY.

7.0 AUDI GRAND PRIX DE CHASSE HUNTER CHASE FINAL (Amateurs): £3,850: 3m 1f (11 runners)

1st 1-2 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
2nd 3-1 OFFSPRING OF GLORY 14/9 (Mrs J Mayott) Mrs J Mayott 12-12-10
3rd 5-1 PARISIAN 21 (F) (P Duzey) P Duzey 11-12-10
4th 6-2 TETRIS 176 (D.F) (J Brody) G Harwood 9-3
5th 7-2 RIVER STARS 14 (D.S) (P Cole) C Britton 7-11-10
6th 8-4 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
7th 9-3 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
8th 10-4 DUCHESS OF YORK 15 (D.F) (P Duzey) P Duzey 11-12-10
9th 11-5 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
10th 12-6 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
11th 13-7 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
12th 14-8 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
13th 15-9 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
14th 16-10 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
15th 17-11 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
16th 18-12 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
17th 19-13 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
18th 20-14 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
19th 21-15 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
20th 22-16 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
21st 23-17 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
22nd 24-18 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
23rd 25-19 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
24th 26-20 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
25th 27-21 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
26th 28-22 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
27th 29-23 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn 11-12-10
28th 30-24 KNOCK HARD 57 (H) Wrynn

Sheffield United can help bring clarity to complex situation

By Ian Ross

THE second division promotion scramble, which one manager described as at the weekend as being "as clear as mud," should be better defined tonight.

Sheffield United will claim one of the two automatic promotion places if they defeat Blackburn Rovers at Ewood Park. Victory for Blackburn would guarantee them a place in the play-offs for the third successive season.

If United return to the first division for the first time since 1976, it will leave Leeds United requiring victory over Bournemouth at Dean Court on Saturday to end an eight-year exile from the top flight.

Were they to lose, or draw, then Newcastle United would be promoted if they defeat Middlesbrough at Ayresome Park on Saturday, a result which would almost certainly condemn the Teesside club to the third division.

Oldham Athletic's season of many plaudits but no success will be sustained only by defeating Oxford United at Boundary Park tonight. The game marks the start of the latest hectic phase in Oldham's season, a punishing schedule which includes a home fixture against Wolve-

Second division

	HOME	AWAY	HOME	AWAY
Leeds Utd	6	14	5	14
Sheff Utd	4	14	5	4
Blackburn	4	14	5	4
Brentford	4	14	5	4
Southend	4	14	5	4
Walsall	4	14	5	4
Wolverhampton	4	14	5	4
Port Vale	4	14	5	4
Leicester	4	14	5	4
Nottingham Forest	4	14	5	4
Oldham	4	14	5	4
Widnes	4	14	5	4
Swindon	4	14	5	4
Wrexham	4	14	5	4
WBA	4	14	5	4
Derby	4	14	5	4
Walsall	4	14	5	4
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